THE TIMES

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THE TIMES

Tomorrow

Boy's eye view
Christmas Day in the life of Adrian Mole



Drama in the dales
The Yorkshire tale to rival Dallas and Dynasty

Screen image
Will British film year in 1985 reflect the true nature of the industry?

Could try harder
Philip Howard gives an end-of-term report on Britain's politicians

Portfolio

The £2,000 Times Portfolio prize on Christmas Eve was shared between two readers, Mr Robert Langdon, of Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey, and Mr Brian Cunliffe, of Great Crosby, Liverpool. There is another £2,000 to be won today; rules and how to play – back page Information Service; today's list – page 12.

Hunt protest group issues 'hit list'

Anti field sports activists claimed responsibility for descecrating the grave of the tenth Duke of Beaufort, former Master of the Beaufort Hunt.

The Hunt Retribution Squad also said it had drawn up a "hit-list" of people, including the Royal Family, Lord Whitelaw, Mr Michael Heseltine, Jackie Charlton and football presenter Jimmy Hill.

Grave desecrated, page 2

Oil warning

The United Arab Emirates will go for a price war unless Opec agrees on a package deal covering price differentials as well as a scheme to monitor output, their oil minister said in Geneva on the eve of today's conference.

Ankara accord

Turkey and the Soviet Union signed long-term economic cooperation and trade agreements during the visit to Ankara by the Soviet Premier, Mr Nikolai Tikhonov

Earlier report, page 4

Scargill warning

Mr Arthur Scargill said that if the Government did not want the pit dispute to continue until next Crhistmas, it must allow the coal board to negotiate with the NUM

Back page

Tehran bombs

Two bombs exploded within 12 hours in Tehran, leaving six people dead and about 50 injured. The Mujahedin opposition group denied responsibility Page 4

Spanish pardon

King Juan Carlos granted a pardon, the first of its kind, to one of the former officers convicted of taking part in the 1981 coup-attempt Page 4

United stumble

Manchester United lost their chance to go top of the First Division when they were beaten by the bottom club, Stoke City.

Page 24

Hostages in Libya may be freed early next month

By Robin Young

Expectations improved yesterday that four Britons held as political hostages in Libya may soon be released, as the result of the mission of the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, Mr Terry Waite.

Mr Waite was invited yesterday to attend a meeting of the Libyan People's Congress, expected to start on January 5.

The Libyan leader, Colonel Gadaffi, told Mr Waite on Christmas Day that he would recommend to the congress as its first item of business that the four men should be released.

Yesterday Mr Waite met the acting Foreign Minister of Libya in Tripoli and had the details of Colonel Gadaffi's proposals confirmed to him.

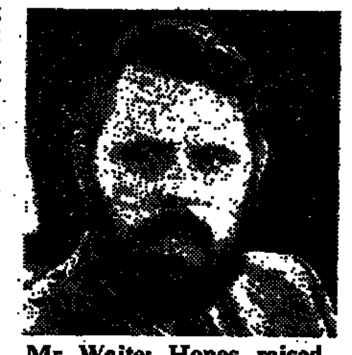
Mr Waite said: "They told me they thought it would be helpful if I returned to London to report to the Archbishop, but came back in the first week of the new year to attend the people's congress. The acting minister concluded by saying: "I have every confidence that there will be a positive decision."

The four detainees are: Mr Alan Russell, an English teacher, accused of speaking to a BBC World Service reporter after an unsuccessful armed attack on Colonel Gadaffi's headquarters last May; Mr Malcolm Anderson, an oil engineer, whose alleged offence was having letters in his possession to take to England to post for colleagues; Mr Robin Plummer, a telephone engineer originally arrested for doing a U-turn on the university campus in Tripoli; and Mr Michael Berdinner, an English lecturer at the university whose alleged offence had not been disclosed.

In a statement on Christman night, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, welcomed the news that Mr Waite's meeting with Colonel Gadaffi had resulted in the Libyan leader's recommendation that the men should now be released.

"If this leads to the release of the four British detainees this will be a very welcome and constructive development", Sir Geoffrey said.

He added that the Government had "of course been in close touch with Mr Waite and are very grateful to the Archbishop of Canterbury and him for their efforts".



Mr Waite: Hopes raised after mission

Reports from Tripoli that Mr Waite had passed Colonel Gadaffi a message from the Government were, however, promptly and swiftly denied: "Any letters Mr Waite had for Colonel Gadaffi came from the Arcbishop of Canterbury and not from us", a Foreign Office official said yesterday.

In his report of his two-hour conversation with Colonel Gadaffi, Mr Waite said that the Libyan leader had expressed concern about "harsh treatment" of Libyan students living in Britain.

A spokesman for Dr Robert Runcie, said speaking to Mr Waite last night that this referred only to Libyan students living and working in Britain, not those charged with terrorist offences.

Mr Waite had proposed that the British Council of Churches might set up telephone centres and a student counselling service for the benefit of Libyan students living in Britain who might feel nervous or frightened.

Four Libyan students have been committed for trial in Manchester and two in London charged with involvement in a total of seven bomb attacks in the two cities which injured 26 people last March.

The Government has consistently ruled out any possibility of doing a deal which might allow Libyan terrorists held in Britain to go free.

Photograph, page 2

Close call for champion

John Francome, the champion jockey, rode Burrough Hill Lad, the odds-on favourite to a photo-finish victory in yesterday's big race at Kempton Park, the King George VI Chase. In a field of three, the smallest for 20 years, this year's Cheltenham Gold Cup winner just held on to beat Combs Ditch. Francome was earlier fined £50 for his riding of Gratification (Photgragh: Chris Cole)

Francome profile, page 6; racing, page 17

PM's pay rise 'will be only 5 per cent'

By Our Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister has decided to take a pay rise of only 5 per cent from the start of the new year, next Tuesday, with a salary of £42,980 including parliamentary allowance.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher is entitled to draw £53,600, but draws the reduced salary entitlement of a Cabinet minister in the Commons in order to set an example of restraint.

That decision to forego more than £10,000 means that there are two dozen senior civil servants, including the Secretary of the Cabinet and the Permanent Secretary to the Treasury, who have been receiving £51,250 from last month, and all the depart mental permanent secretaries, who have been getting £45,500 from last month, who earn more than the Prime Minister and all her Cabinet colleagues.

Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Opposition, will be receiving an extra £1,920, or 5 per cent, to put him on £40,310 from the new year – just over £50 a week less than Mrs Thatcher.

Salaries for back-bench MPs in the Commons go up at the same time from £16,106 to £16,908, an increase of £66 a month.

According to the latest Department of Employment figures, the underlying increase in average earnings for all workers to last October was 7.5 per cent.

Increases in MPs' salaries and ministerial salaries, by annual stages of between 5.5 per cent and 4.5 per cent at the start of each year to 1987, were announced in the Commons on July 21 last year after a back-bench revolt on the issue.

Full list of new salaries, including reduced parliamentary salary where office holders are also MPs

Prime Minister and cabinet members in Commons	£42,980
Lord Chancellor**	£65,900
Mr Speaker	£44,560
Cabinet ministers in Lords	£33,260
Minister of State, Commons	£33,590
Minister of State, Lords	£28,000
Parl. Sec., Commons	£28,120
Parl. Sec., Lords	£22,520
Attorney General	£44,990
Solicitor General	£38,840
Lord Advocate, Commons	£33,320
Sol. Gen. Scotland	£34,700

**The Lord Chancellor has a notional salary set at £2,000 more than the Lord Chief Justice's £63,900 but is expected to continue taking the Lords cabinet salary, £33,260, little more than half his entitlement.

In the Commons:	
Opposition Leader	£40,310
Chief Whip	£37,590
Deputy Chief Whip	£33,590
Opp. Chief Whip	£33,590
Government Whip	£25,310
Assistant Opp. Whip	£25,310
Chairman, Way and Means	£33,590
Dep. Chairman	£30,840
In the Lords:	
Chief Whip	£28,000
Dep. Chief Whip	£22,520
Government Whip	£19,710
Opposition Leader	£22,520
Opp. Chief Whip	£19,710
Chairman of Cttees.	£28,000
Prin. Dep. Chair. of Cttees.	£25,160

Hunt for bombers moves to Florence

From John Earle, Rome

Italian police searched houses in the Florence area yesterday and issued Idenikits of two young men suspected of planting the bomb on the Naples-Milan express which killed 15 passengers and injured more than 100 on Sunday.

One of the men is believed to have boarded the train when it stopped at Florence station, leaving the bomb in a suitcase or bag in the corridor or possibly a luggage rack inside a compartment, before alighting again.

The Archibishop of Bologna will conduct the funeral service today in the presence of President Pertini, who has interrupted a Christmas holiday in the Alps. The line has reopened to normal traffic, although trains are running late.

The bomb exploded at 7.15pm in a second-class coach in the middle of the long train crowded with Christmas holidaymakers. It was evidently timed to have the maximum effect as it exploded in a 12-mile tunnel – the longest in Italy – under the Appenines between Florence and Bologna.

The outrage brought a sense of shock to Italy and a further reminder that terrorism has not been defeated. Many had come to believe that domestic political terror was no longer a threat.

But last week the Red Brigades reappeared in two armed robberies, one at a department store here and the other at a Bologna jeweller. The bomb on the express, however, was more reminiscent of right-wing terrorism, although telephone calls claiming responsibility have been received from both extremes.

It has been typical of neo-fascist groups to concentrate on railways, killing as many people as possible, while the Red Brigades and other left-wing extremists usually aim at carefully chosen individual targets.

Right-wing violence started with a bomb attack at a Milan bank in December 1969, when 16 died. The same Appenine tunnel was chosen for another attack on an express train on August 4, 1974, when 12 people were killed.

Earlier that year, in May, eight died when a bomb was thrown during an anti-fascist meeting in the northern town of Brescia. But the worst in the series was the explosion at Bologna station which killed 85 travellers on August 2, 1980.

● BOLOGNA: A railway policeman, upset by Sunday's bombing, has committed suicide (APreports).

The Italian news agency, Ansa, quoted police as saying that Filippo Alberghina had left a note which included the words: "I am not able to continue living in this absurd world." The 29-year-old bachelor is believed to have shot himself.

Politician's murder mars Indian poll

From Michael Hamlyn, Dehli

Three days of voting in the Indian general election have been marred by political violence which culminated yesterday in the ambush and murder of a south Indian legislator.

The killing of Mr A Umashankar Reddy, a member of the upper house of the Andhra Pradesh legislature, appears to have arisen from a vendetta between left-wing Naxalite guerrillas and a group opposing them. The number of election-related deaths rose yesterday to 21.

The toll belies the statement by the Chief Election Commissioner, Mr R. K. Trivedi, that polling candidates in Andhra Pradesh, which goes to the polls for the first time today, have been given armed bodyguards, as their constituencies are infested with the Naxalites involved in the vendetta in which Mr Reddy died.

*Thirteen of the deaths oc*curred in the state of Bihar, where political banditry has become notorious, the eight other killings in various parts of the country, included that of an independent candidate, who was attacked by rival procession.

Voting has been concluded in Bihar and most other states, but will continue today in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Maharashtra. A final round of voting will take place tomorrow in three constituencies, two in Meghalaya and one in Nagaland. Both states are in the mountainous north-east

Counting begins tomorrow, and it is expected there will be a hundred definite results by midnight.

As well as the violence, there has been evidence of electoral malpractice in Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh.

In the latter state, a *Times* correspondent saw ballot-stuffing, vote-stealing and intimidation taking place.

Because of complaints of malpractice, re-voting will take place today at nearly 150 polling stations.

In fairness too, it should be pointed out that deaths from caste conflicts are not uncommon in Bihar or Uttar Pradesh. There are frequent armed clashes between gangs of high-caste Bhumihars (the name simply landlords) or Brahmins and lower-caste Yadavs, or between Harijans and the higher castes.

The electoral violence may therefore be seen as another sort of social conflict, and not just part of the polling scene.

However, the *Times of India* said yesterday that the intensification of class and caste hatred could not fully account for the "continued spate of head-bashing".

But the traditional hostility between Jats and Harijans in Haryana state did not disturb the electoral peace there because local politicians of all hues resisted the temptation to induce villains to browbeat their rivals, the newspaper said.

Rajiv's chances, page 8

Extradited man plans 'life' appeal

Dominic McGlinchey, one-time reputed leader of the Irish National Liberation Army, is to appeal against his conviction for the murder of a policeman's mother, his solicitor, Mr Joe Rice, said yesterday.

McGlinchey, aged 30, was the first terrorist suspect to be extradited from the Irish Republic to Northern Ireland. He was sentenced to life imprisonment on Christmas Eve for the murder of an elderly postmistress at Toomebridge Co Antrim, seven years ago.

The appeal is expected to be lodged with the Ulster High Court within the next week.

McGlinchey was Ireland's most hunted fugitive at the time of his arrest by the Garda nine months ago and in recent years was considered to be the commander of the INLA after having been a member of the Provisional IRA. In a clandestine press interview near *Dublin last year he admitted to* being involved in more than 20 killings.

Under the terms of his extradition, the Ulster authorities could try him only for the offence cited on the extradition warrant – the murder of Mrs Hester McMullan, aged 67. She died when her house, where she lived with her son, a police reservist, was sprayed by Armalite rifle fire.

The prosecution maintained McGlinchey's thumb print was found on a window of the gang's VW getaway car. McGlinchey, a car mechanic, claimed he had both worked on the vehicle, and had been given a lift in it.

Mr Justice Hutton, however, said it was straining credibility too far to suggest that the thumb print was placed at other than the material time. He accepted as evidence affidavits' which McGlinchey had sworn in Dublin that he had been involved in Provisional IRA operations. The judge said he found it difficult to assess the extent of McGlinchey's involvement in the Toomebridge murder, and would make no recommendation on the minimum term he should serve in jail.

Immediately after McGlinchey was sentenced, the Royal Ulster Constabulary scaled down its investigations into a number of other killings. His conviction came only hours after 14 loyalists, convicted on the evidence of a supergrass, were cleared by the Northern Ireland Court of Appeal.

"Killings boast," page 3

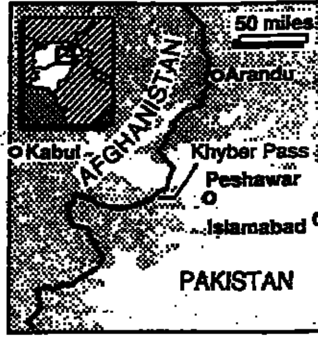
Four Pakistanis killed in Afghan air raid

Islamabad (AP) – Six Afghan aircraft bombed a Pakistani village close to the Afghan border, killing four people and injuring six others, a Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday.

He said the bombing occurred on Tuesday at the village of Arandu, in the Chitral area 150 miles north-west of Islamabad.

The Afghan chargé d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Ministry and a "strong protest" was lodged with him, the spokesman said.

According to the Pakistanis, Afghan military aircraft have committed more than 636 violations of Pakistani air space between 1978 and December 1984. Afghan ground troops allegedly shelled Pakistani territory on 131 occasions during the same period.



Grim prospects, page 5

Thatcher stays firm over Falklands

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister has repudiated an all-party Commons select committee's doubts about Britain's legal claim to the Falkland Islands.

In a special Christmas broadcast to the Islands, Mrs Margaret Thatcher said: "I want to have a word about many of the visitors that I know you get coming to Falklands. Some of them come with all sorts of ideas, some of them start pontificating about the future

But she then stated: "The Falkland Islands are British territory. The people have been there for many generations, often before families that went to the Argentine.

"People who come and see you come from a democracy. Democracy is about the right of self-determination.

And when people now tell me: 'Ah, well, there is democracy in the Argentine', I say: 'Yes, and the people in government of the Argentine should know now they have democracy, they have self-determination, and they should know that they must extend that same right to the people of the Falklands.'

"That is why I constantly say to everyone who comes to see me: it is the wishes of the Falkland islanders that are paramount - and so it will continue to be".

A report from the Commons select committee on foreign affairs, published earlier this month, failed to reach a "categorical conclusion on the legal validity of the historical claims of either country".

It also said: "Some kind of accommodation with Agrentina is not only inevitable, in view of the cost of the present policy to the UK, but also desirable if the Falklands are to have any prospect of long-term economic prosperity and political stability".

Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for Linlithgow and the most steadfast critic of government policy towards the Falklands, said last night that he had written to Sir Geffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, about the implications of the broadcast.

He said that the Prime Minister was playing into he hands of those elements of the Argentine Military who wanted to take revenge against Britain

Dalyell refuses to reveal source on Murrell death

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr Tam Dalyell, the Labour MP who has blamed British Intelligence burglars for the killing of a woman aged 78 in Shrewsbury last March, is refusing to disclose the identity of his source to the police.

An appointment has been made for Mr Dalyell to be interviewed by Chief Superintendent David Cole, head of West Mercia CID, at the House of Commons on January 15.

But Mr Dalyell said last night that although he was convinced that his source would be able to help the police with their murder investigation, he could not supply the name. "Once I start to reveal sources, who else will talk to me again?" he asked.

The MP said in the Commons last Thursday that Miss Hilda Murrell, an international rose expert, had been killed after she had disturbed burglars who, he said, may have suspected that Miss Murrell was keeping documents relating to the sinking of the General Belgrano during the 1982 Falklands conflict.

Miss Murrell was known to be close to her nephew, Commander Rob Green, a former naval intelligence officer who had passed the signal ordering the sinking

No such documents were being held at Miss Murrell's home and Mr Dalyell accepted that there was no premeditated attack by the burglars, but he told the House: "Being a lady of courage and spunk, often found in that generation of women, Miss Murrell fought them. They, too, had to fight, injured her, and panicked. The cover-up had to begin because the searchers were members of British Intelligence, I am informed."

Mr Dalyell, who called for a select committee of Privy Councillors to monitor the activities of the intelligence services, said last night: "I do believe that there are certain areas of British Intelligence that are running amok."

More fog and ice forecast as five die on the roads

By Rupert Morris and Joe Raviteh

Fog and ice were likely to be a problem all over the country until the weekend, with snow on hills and moors, the London Weather Centre said last night.

Yesterday, five people killed on British roads as black ice caused numerous accidents, and closed the A1 in Nottinghamshire for two hours, as sudden blast of wintry weather caught motorists by surprise.

A girl aged seven was missing last night after being swept off a rock a St Oswald's Bay, near Lulworth, Dorset. A search by Weymouth lifeboat and coastguards will begin again at dawn today.

Police and the AA yesterday described the roads as "the slippiest of the year", and warned drivers to take extreme care. Milder, wetter weather is expected in the North-West by tomorrow, but elsewhere temperatures will remain below freezing for several days.

Three people were reported dead, and five others injured in a three-car crash on the A1 at Elkesley near Retford, yesterday. The road was blocked for more than two hours as firemen used cutting equipment to reach the injured.

In Gloucestershire, on the A38 Gloucester to Tewkesbury road at Twigworth, a car spun out of control before it smashed into a farmhouse, killing two brothers. They were named as David Watson, aged 14, and Richard Watson, aged both of Churchdown, Glos.

At least 15 people died in fires – nine in one house, eight of them from one family. Five children were among the nine killed in the blaze at Bury, Greater Manchester, early on Christmas.

Two brothers Alexander Gadsby, aged five, and James, aged three, died early yesterday brothers Alexander Gadsby, aged five, and James, aged three, died early yesterday in a fire in their home in Sherington, Buckinghamshire.

In London, two men died in a Victorian house divided into bedsitters in Catford, South-east London, during a fire early on Christmas Day.

In Edinburgh, Mr George Thomson, aged 68, died as fire swept through his first-floor flat yesterday morning, and Mr Irvine Whillans, aged 46, was killed when fire broke out in his home in Hawick.

Mr Graham Walker, aged 33, a miner, shot his son, aged three while 'demonstrating' how a .375 magnum revolver worked, at the family's home at Longhurst Road, Hendley Green, Wigan, Greater Manchester. The youngster died later

Fire deaths theory, page 3

TUC rejects cut in real wages as means of reducing unemployment

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The union movement has launched a campaign to counter growing pressure from the Government for cuts in real wages as means of reducing unemployment, which the TUC expects to be a cornerstone of short-term economic policy.

The first issue of a bi-monthly TUC economic briefing, published today, which will be sent ot all unions, argues that the Government strategy is "simplistic" and will lead to an increasing number of workers falling into the poverty trap.

Ministers, determined to encourage the reduction in wages costs as a means of creating more jobs, are taking their lead from Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who said in October that if earnings rose slower than prices instead of 3 per cent faster a further 500,000 jobs could be created.

Whitehall has argued that 50,000 more jobs could be available if industries covered by wages councils were relieved of the necessity to follow minimum rates established by the councils. But the TUC document says that there is no evidence to support that claim or the assertion that paying adult wages to young people depresses employment.

"The logic of the government argument points the way to a society based on ever-widening inequalities in wages, living standards and conditions, a two-tier job market and an increase in insecurity and in authoritarian management," the TUC says.

The union argument is that since 1979 unemployment has more than doubled while real wages of some of the lowest paid, including young people, have been cut. The TUC, quoting Department of Employment statistics, says that the lowest 10 per cent of male manual workers suffered a real pay cut of 2 per cent, while those under 18 saw a reduction of 6 per cent.

Despite the union arguments, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, will press ahead in the new year with proposals for redrawing responsibilities of wages councils, which are set the minimum wages of almost three million low-paid workers.

The thrust of the Government's policy will be to reduce the costs of employing young people and is likely to come down against wholesale abolition of the councils. Ministers recently suffered the embarrassment of a report, commissioned by the Department of Employment, showing that wages councils in the retail sector had "no independent employment effect".

The TUC says it "wholeheartedly rejects cynical attempts by the Government to duck the blame for unemployment. There is no mystery about the huge loss of jobs since 1979", and the TUC presses for higher investment to provide the new jobs.

It questions the Government's argument that British wage costs are too high compared with international competitors and states that total hourly labour costs in manufacturing are about half of those in the United States and two-thirds those in West Germany.

Navy anxious over new ships delay

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Mounting pressure on the defence budget is causing anxiety in the Royal Navy that it may lead to a slowing down in the rate of ordering frigates and destroyers and affect the quality of the Fleet at the end of the decade.

Orders for two type-22 Broadsword Class frigates, which had been expected by the end of 1983, have still not been decided. As recently as the end of October, ministers were saying that they hoped to announce the orders before the end of the year, but it was officially stated immediately before Christmas that no decisions had yet been taken.

The delay has partly been caused by difficulties in deciding which of three competing shipyards, Swan Hunter, Vosper Thornycroft and Cammell Laird, should get the contracts. But it is believed that the most recent delays have been influenced by budgetary pressures.

There is also concern about the likely rate of ordering of the new type-23 Duke Class of frigate. In his defence review of June 1981, Sir John Nott, then Secretary of State for Defence, said the ministry would "accelerate to the maximum possible extent" the ordering of the first of this class. But the order was not placed until last October.

The Navy expects to build at least eight type 23s but there are now worries over how long this will take.

Ministry of Defence evidence to the Commons Defence prepared during the summer, "eventually an order rate of about three type 23s a year is envisaged." However, the most recent ministerial statement on the subject, on December 11, merely referred to a second type 23 being ordered in about 18 months time, with no mention of the subsequent ordering rate.

One senior naval source said recently that it looked as though the rate of ordering type 23s may be slowed down because of pressure onthe defence budget. There is particular concern that this should not happen, because it is estimated that by the end of the decade about one third of the fleet of destroyers and frigates will be over 20 years old.

There is already an accumulating problem of maintaining ageing ships at sea because the need to keep three or four ships on patrol round the Falkland Islands is making it difficult to keep abreast of the normal programme.

The cost of a type 22 frigate is officially estimated at about £135 million, though when stores, spare parts, ammunition and so on are added it comes close to £170 million. The estimated building cost of the type 23 is put at about £110 milliion as against a figure of under £70 million foreshadowed by Sir John Nott in 1981.

Alliance only beacon in political gloom, Steel says

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The savagery of the coal strike and the continuing plague of unemployment cast a blight on 1984, Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, said in a message to party members yesterday.

The Liberal-SDP Alliance had become the only beacon of light in the political gloom, and he appealed to the Alliance to face up to the formidable responsibility of creating a "credible and united alternative government".

Mr Steel said that the deep divisions of class and prejudice had been widened by the coal strike, and the Government's failure to take advantage of North Sea oil to rebuild the economy had become more apparent. "The devastation of long-term unemployment continues to spread like a plague across our towns and cities".

As Labour collapsed, the Alliance had emerged as the real alternative and the only hope of stopping a third Thatcher term, he said.

"The seven by-elections to date give our Alliance 36 per cent ot the Tories' 34 per cent and Labour's 27 per cent, this demonstrating our continuing upward movement since the general election.

"In the last six months of 1984, we have had on the local election front 26 Liberal net gains of councillors plus eight SDP net gains, compared with only 12 for Labour and a decline of 38 for the Tories.

"It is already apparent that whatever the electoral arithmatic at the next election, to put is at its lowest, the next British Government is unlikely to be formed without us," Mr Steel said.

Laws part families at Christmas

By Our Race Relations Correspondent

Hundreds of British children are spending their Christmas holidays separated from their fathers by immigration rules which are causing Conservative backbench MPs to become increasingly uneasy.

The children are innocent victims of the "primary purpose" which prohibits the entry to Britain of men judged by immigratin officials to have married in order to gain the right to settlement here.

Mr Trevor Skeet, Conservative MP for north Bedfordshire, says it is an impossible matter to prove. How can anyone judge which of several reasons for a marriage is the main one, he asks. Immigratin officials, he says, twist the answers to questions posed under the rule to suit their own convenience.

The British Council of Churches is urging the Government to end such separation of families by bringing immigration rules into line with EEC law.

Husbands or wives of EEC nationals working in another member state are allowed to join their spouses, irrespective of their own citizenship. In Britain, men can bring in their foreign wives, but women are prevented from bringing in their husbands by the "primary purpose" rule.

Mr Skeet says it is unreasonable to expect women who have lived in Britain since childhood, acquired permanent settlement and have become westernized to move to another country if they marry men without rights to enter Britain.

He also backs a plea to the Home Office that deportations of husbands already here should stop until decisions are made on their wives' applications for British citizenship.

The Home Office argues that allowing the husbands to come in endangers the labour market in Britain, and would be unfair to other men seeking entry clearance to Britain if marriage allowed them to "jump the queue". But ministers acknowledge that many of the cases brought to them by MPs involve genuine marriages and families.

Most of the families affected involve women from the Asian sub-continent.

Miss Clare Short, Labour MP for Brighton, Ladywood, said the grief and misery of the families was heartrending. It was worst for women who had been able to live with their husbands for a short while and now had children to support.



Children singing in the chapel being built from runway rubble at RAF Molesworth (Photograph: John Manning).

Protest flourishes in the mud

By Pat Healy

From the road, it looks as if the disused Second World War airfield at RAF Molesworth, Cambridgeshire, has been encamped by gypsies with a long row of caravans, brightly painted buses and tents by the trees. Then you reach the sign declaring that this is "Peace Corner" and another marking out "Anarchy Farm".

Molesworth, designated Britain's second cruise missile base, now accommodates the most rapidly growing peace camp of the dozen providing a permanent protest against nuclear weapons and American bases. It is the only one established on a base, because Molesworth has neither fence nor gates to keep out intruders.

The base will be the site of next Easter's peace protests organized by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, which is planning a permanent rota of campers to prevent a fence being built there so that missile silos can be constructed at the base.

In the past four months, more than 100 men, women and children with attendant goats, dogs and cats, have arrived to set up home there. They are a mixed band, including master builders, carpenters and printers, united only by their opposition to cruise missiles.

Their determination is epitomized by the chapel – named Eirene, the Greek word for "peace" – which is slowly being built with runway rubble at the main entrance. The chapel has been dedicated by the Bishop of Huntingdon and was used recently for a carol service attended by more than 100 people, including several members of Ex-Services CND wearing their campaign medals and service decorations.

The chapel is the most enduring of the structures on the peace camp, but a new print workshop is being built to replace the present marquee which houses the duplicator and typewriters on which they compose their messages to the world. There is a temporary school for the 15 children there, but it, too will be replaced by a more permanent structure.

The camp has had its first baby, Tarot Lorien-Findlay, a boy now four months old who was born in his parents' bus at Molesworth. His two sisters and older brother have experienced some of the opposition aroused in nearby villages by the presence of the camp. Ben, aged 14, has dropped out of school because of the hostility expressed to him, but the girls Rhian, aged 7, and Lennie, 6, continue to go because of the support expressed to their mother by other parents with children at the school.

The campers hope that the extensive mud on the base will make any eviction difficult to effect, and that a newsletter delivered recently will help to break down local hostility.

But Bridie Wallis, a former nurse who was married in the Molesworth chapel and lives in nearby Clopton village, said that peace protesters were now part of any nuclear missile base. If local people wanted to get rid of the protesters, the missiles would have to go, too.




Christmas apart: Mrs Frances Waite, wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, at their home in Blackheath, south London, yesterday. Mr Terry Waite returns tonight from Libya, where he has been seeking the release of four British hostages.

Hecklers thrown out of church

Hecklers from the Rev Ian Paisley's Free Presbyterian Church were ejected from a Christmas morning church service at Limavady, Co Londonderry, when they objected to the presence of a Roman Catholic priest.

For the second consecutive year, the Rev David Armstrong, Limavady's Presbyterian minister and Fr Kevin Mullan, the Catholic parish priest, were attending each other's Christmas services to exchange greetings with the congregations of the two churches which are separated by only 30 yards.

Three Free Presbyterian demonstrators slipped into the service at the Presbyterian church and began heckling. Scuffles broke out and the hecklers were ejected by members of the congregation. The Rev James McClements, the local Free Presbyterian minister who was leading the protesters claimed he was punched in the face.

Plane crash victim found

The police have confirmed that a woman found dead on Stonehaven beach, Kincardine, last Wednesday was Miss Aileen Ross, aged 36, the former wife of the stores tycoon Sir Hugh Fraser she was a passenger on a microlight plane which plunged into the sea off Inverbervie seven weeks ago.

Woman in flames

A woman, aged 36, was recovering in hospital yesterday after being engulfed in flames in her living room. Mrs Christine Middlehurst, of Drake Road, Newton Abbot, Devon, was said to be "improving" after suffering burns to more than 50 per cent of her body.

Bomber marries

Ann Bateson, aged 28, of Magherafelt, Co Londonderry, who is serving 20 years for a bombing and is due to be freed in 1987, married while on Christmas parole.

The Times overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 29; Belgium B frs 60; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 170; Cyprus 700 mils; Denmark Dkr 8.60; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.40; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 38; Madeira Esc 125; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 8.50; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $5.60; Spain Pes 170; Sweden Skr 8.50; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.75; Yugoslavia Din 150

Ten saved as tug capsizes

Ten people were rescued from a tug which capsized and sank off the Isle of Wight on Christmas Eve. One crew member is missing. The Implacable went down about 30 miles off St Catherine's Point.

The rescued people were winched to safety from a liferaft by the crew of a helicopter.

The 750-ton tug, which recently began a year's contract work for the Ministry of Defence, was on its way to the Falklands. She had a Merchant Navy crew of 11.

Help for hard-hit pit equipment industry rejected

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Government has rejected pleas from the country's increasingly battered mining equipment industry for urgent, short-term help and there are now fears among companies that the crisis brought on by the miners' dispute may soon become a disaster.

Almost all of the 90 members of the Association of British Mining Equipment Companies (Abmec) are operating short-time working and many have had to lay off workers.

But attempts to persuade the Department of Trade and Industry to make the industry a special case with the reintroduction of the temporary short-time working supplement have come to nought. Mr. Harold Rhodes, director general of Abmec, said: "We have been extended a sympathetic ear but the Government's answer is that available funds have been directed into training programmes.

"We don't expect to be baled out, but when the strike is over there will be a vacuum and we would have hoped for some better treatment."

Ordering by the National Coal Board, which was already clipped by the miners' overtime ban, has sunk to under 80 per cent of last year's levels and while the board is keeping its suppliers informed of future needs it is not buying equipment for which it has no immediate use.

Activity in the industry varies from 25 to 75 per cent, largely in proportion to a company's dependency on the coal board and the different successes being achieved in export markets. There are hopes that last year's £150 million of overseas sales (from output totalling £1 billion) will rise to £200 million this year.

The impact on the equipment industry has been patchy and unpredictable, but the lay-offs and concern among companies has added to the gloom that has settled over industry and commerce in the coalfield regions.

A recent study by Phillips & Drew, the stockbrokers, concluded that Dobson Park Industries, which relies on the coal board for 50 per cent of its sales, was particularly vulnerable, while the Dowty group had been least affected. These two, and Anderson Strathclyde, were however most likely to benefit from increased business abroad.

The industry fears that after the strike there may not be a big backlog of orders unleashed. With more coal faces becoming unworkable because of the strike or the board's closure plans, new equipment orders will be curtailed. This prospect comes on top of last year's bad trading conditions.

The coal board's ordering power is enormous and the impact of the dispute is being felt beyond immediate suppliers to sub-contractors and providers of ancilliary equipment. Last year, the total amount spent by the board on contracts and services was £1.2 billion of which about £1 billion was on machinery and other pit equipment. The board has 4,000 suppliers of which about half account for 92 per cent of the £1 billion of machinery equipment supplies.

'No return' to old coal output level

Coal production in Britain will never return to its pre-strike level of 110 million tons, according to a report today by DRI Europe, energy analysts based in Paris. Annual production will pick up next year to 70 million tons after the dispute, assumed to end in the second quarter, and rise to 97 million tons in 1986. That level will be maintained to 1995 by new mines.

Elsewhere in the industrial economy, the coal strike is having negligible impact; only in the retail sector, and particularly in small shops, is the lack of spending power among miners and their families making inroads into business finances.

A survey of the regional offices of the Confederation of British Industry shows that industry generally is more preoccupied with national issues such as unemployment and, if export-orientated, their international competitivess. The CBI's Yorkshire and Humberside region said: "For the majority of firms the coal dispute remains of negligible importance. Demand and sales remain brisk, particularly in consumer products, clothing, textiles, chemicals and pharmaceuticals."

Overcrowding puts young in adult jails

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Juveniles aged 15 are being drafted out of young people's remand centres to adult prisons to alleviate acute overcrowding, the National Association of Probation Officers (NAPO) says.

Members have reported that some of these juveniles are spending 23 hours a day in their prison cells because of lack of education, staffing problems, and to avoid mixing with older prisoners.

"Investigations have revealed that the authorities allocate separate landings for the younger prisoners but that separation could not be guaranteed during the day", Mr Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary, says in the NAPO Newsletter.

"Members throughout the country have quite recently reported increases in the number of young people remanded in custody prior to trial, and a continued increase in the numbers finally sentenced to periods of youth custody".

That had lead to overcrowding and chaos within the system, the newsletter says.

Publication of NAPO's findings coincide with the results of a survey published by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders. Returns from one-quarter of local authority areas in England and Wales say the number of juvenile offenders sentenced to custody increased by 21 per cent over the first half of 1984 compared with the second half of last year.

Mr Fletcher writes: "NAPO believes that it will soon be necessary for the Home Office to review the workings of the Criminal Justice Act and the sentencing powers of magistrates".

Charities: 1

Volunteers walk the funding tightrope

Are voluntary social services organisations about to pay the price of their increasing reliance on public money? What the Government and councils can give they can also take away – as charities and voluntary groups in London and the big cities are now finding out. DAVID WALKER and HEATHER TOWNSEND report.

A West End emergency service for drug addicts and runaways gets 47 per cent of its income directly from rate and taxpayers and a substantial slice of its other income in fees paid by council social workers. The Save the Children Fund gets nearly all of the money it spends in Britain on inner city playgroups and mother-and-toddler clubs from councils.

Over half the income of the Greater London Association for the Disabled comes from a single local authority, the Greater London Council. If the GLC is abolished: "I expect the government to make provision," Ms Margaret Lorek, its director, says.

Recent years have seen a striking growth in central government payments to voluntary groups, notably from the Manpower Services Commission and the Department of the Environment. Since 1979, grants from the latter have risen by more than 270 per cent; its urban programme supports community projects in Birmingham and workshops for the mentally handicapped in Lambeth, south London. The 26,300 full and part-time employees of English voluntary housing associations rely on the £500 million or more handed out each year by a quango, the Housing Corporation.

Attention has focused on the spectacular increase in money from councils. The GLC is spending £53 million this year on grants to voluntary bodies – up from £5 million in 1981-82, the first year of Labour administration at County Hall.

The table, based on a sample of groups in the City of Westminster, shows the extent of reliance on public money; the pattern would probably hold in the other metropolitan areas.

Mr Charles Woodd, of Voluntary Action, Westminster, notes "there is a tendency for more work to be done by aid staff; there has been a growth of staff and in the number of organizations recently. It is an effect of more generous grant-giving by public authorities, especially the GLC."

In other words, not only do grants form a higher proportion of voluntary groups' income but a number of voluntary organizations (especially feminist and ethnic groups) have been established in response to the ready availability of money.

In some cases voluntary bodies have grown to resemble public bodies, for example in the unionization of their staff. The National and Local Government Officers' Association, the main council white-collar union, recently opened a special branch for employees of voluntary groups. It now has 300 members. "Recruitment is staggering," says Nalgo, which estimates a possible membership of 5,000.

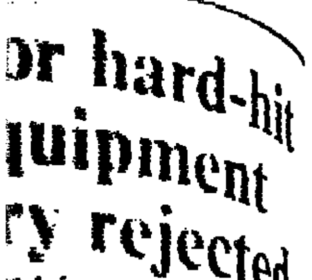
But this new intimacy between voluntary groups and the public sector worries some people. The National Council for Voluntary Organizations (which itself is subsidized) recently published a code giving a warning against exceeding a "prudential proportion" of public funds.

Tomorrow: What happened to private money.

Sources of income: Westminster survey

Type of organization	Grants of public money as % of total income
Advice services	43–100
Youth clubs	52–63
Community centres	27–90
Community work	100
Arts bodies	10–20
Organizations for offenders	54–97

Source: Voluntary Action, Westminster



Patients watch lives being saved by tube technology

Patients yesterday told how they watched their lives being saved by a revolutionary technique which makes a surgeon's scalpel redundant in some operations.

The procedure, carried out under local anaesthetic at Hammersmith Hospital, west London, involves guiding very fine tubes along veins or arteries to the kidney, liver, brain, or any other part of the body.

Patients can watch the procedure on a screen as tubes seal arteries after stabbings or road accidents. The system can also be used in the treatment of conditions such as ulcers. Kidney stones and gallstones can be removed, and blocked arteries in the limbs, the kidneys and the heart can be cleared.

Doctors guide the tube through a single, minute skin puncture to the trouble spot with the help of a £400,000 computer-controlled x-ray machine.

Professor David Allison, Director of Dignostic Radiology at the hospital's Post-Graduate Medical School, said the tubes were "armed" with materials including tiny steel coils, plastic beads, inflatable balloons and even glue.

These were released into the body through the tip of the tube to stop bleeding, cut the blood supply to an organ or to clear blocked arteries.

People suffering from bleeding from many causes, including ulcers, injuries and weak spots along the walls of arteries could be treated by the procedure.

Many other patients who had not been able to walk for years because of poor circulation in their legs were leading normal lives as a result of the treatment.

The technique has been used successfully several hundred times over the past few years. Former patients yesterday described the treatment as "absolutely fantastic".

Mrs Margaret Mc abe, of Hayes, West London, said she owed her life to the technique which had been used to stop severe internal bleeding.

"I had six or seven operations in the space of six weeks to control the bleeding, but they all failed. I had 130 pints of blood transfused to make up the loss of blood, my weight was down from eight to four stone and there seemed no hope for me.

"Luckily, I was then transferred to Hammersmith Hospital and Professor Allison saved my life with the new method," she said.

Another patient, Anthony Dibble, aged 11, of Bridgend, South Wales, was taken to the hospital under police escort last summer when he went into a coma several months after having a kidney transplant.

His mother, Mrs Jeanette Dibble, said that, although the transplant was successful, an artery and a vein inside the kidney has subsequently joined up, sending Anthony's blood pressure "sky high".

The Hammersmith doctors had sealed off the abnormal link between the blood vessels, restored normal blood pressure and saved the transplanted kidney.

Members of the Quorn setting off for their Boxing Day meet from Loughborough Market Place yesterday. (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Hunt protesters violate grave

By Joe Ravitch

An anti-hunt campaign group, the Hunt Retribution Squad, has claimed responsibility for desecrating the grave of the tenth Duke of Beaufort, a former Master of the Beaufort Hunt.

Yesterday, on the morning of the Beaufort Hunt's Boxing Day meeting, an anonymous telephone caller to the Press Association said a group of ten anti-hunt activists had tried to dig up the body of the Duke, on Christmas night and had defaced the grave as a protest against "a very cruel man." The caller said: "We are sick and tired of the way hunting is carrying on murdering animals."

The cross over the duke's grave in the private family cemetery at the parish church of Badminton, Avon was stolen and anti-hunt slogans were sprayed around the cemetery. "There has been an attempt to interfere with the grave; we think they were trying to get at the body," a police spokesman said.

Members of the hunt taking part in the Boxing Day meeting a few miles away from the cemetery, expressed anger and sadness over the desecration. The eleventh Duke of Beaufort, who has succeeded his father as leader of the hunt, said the actions of the anti-hunt group were "disgusting and sick".

Major Gerald Gundry, Master of the Hunt, called the vandals "diabolical", and insisted: "They say we are not nice people, but what do you call people who behave like this?"

Henry Hugh Arthur FitzRoy Somerset, the tenth Duke, had been Master of Horse for 42 years, and was renowned for his hunting activities. He died earlier this year at the age of 83.

The Hunt Saboteurs' Association said in a statement yesterday that it did not know who carried out the attack but viewed it "in no way unfavourably".

● **In another field sports protest, about 30 demonstrators picketed a Boxing Day hare coursing meeting at Crebilly, near Ballymena, Northern Ireland. They were outnumbered by the police and there was no trouble in what over the past 15 years has become a traditional confrontation between coursing fans and their opponents.**

Spark from unguarded fire theory as 9 die

By Peter Davenport

Fire brigade investigators were yesterday still trying to pinpoint the cause of the Christmas Day blaze that led to the deaths of nine people, including four children, attending a family party.

One of the theories being considered is that a spark from an unguarded fire set alight wrapping paper from opened presents. Within minutes furnishings were blazing and giving off highly toxic fumes which killed the victims, almost all members of one family, as they slept.

The inquiry into the tragedy, one of the worst domestic fire tolls in the country for many years, is being headed by Mr Bob Graham, an assistant chief officer in the Greater Manchester Fire Brigade, and a member of a Home Office committee on fire prevention in the home.

The fire came just two days after Greater Manchester Fire Service had issued a warning about increased risks and dangers in the home during Christmas.

The fire occurred at the home in Mossey Street, Bury, Lancashire of Mrs Elizabeth Carroll, aged 47, she died, along with her daughters, Joanne, aged 15, and Mrs Laura Fry, aged 28, whose two children, Scott aged six, and Lindsey, aged three, were also killed.

Mrs Caroll's father, Mr Walter Jones, aged 76, and two more grandchildren, brothers Barry and Dean Gaunt, aged two and four, also died. The ninth victim Mr Darrell Smith, aged 24, was a friend of Mrs Fry.

Five other people were taken to hospital. They included Mr Brian Gaunt, aged 29, and his wife Deborah, aged 22, parents of the dead brothers. They were released after treatment.

Yesterday Mrs Carroll's son Frank, aged 25, and his friend Miss Beverley Holland, aged 17, were detained in Bury General Hospital, but were said to be improving. However, Mr Peter Jones, aged 50, Mrs Carroll's brother was still "poorly" in the intensive care unit.

Mr Douglas Galvin, the fire brigade spokesman, said: "It was just unbelievable that so many people could die in that house. The fire started in a ground-floor rear lounge and was confined to that area. There was very little damage from direct burning to the rest of the house but there were all the classic symptoms of modern-day furnishing giving off carbon monoxide fumes.

Brothers die

Two brothers died and their baby sister was left fighting for her life after fire swept through their home in Sherington, near Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire, early yesterday morning.

Alexander Godsby, aged five, and James, aged three, were found dead in their beds by firemen, who forced their way through choking black smoke. Their sister, Rebecca, aged 11, and other and father leapt to safety from an upstairs window.

Sarah, aged 18 months, was rescued by her father but was later said to be seriously ill in the intensive care unit of Milton Keynes General Hospital.

Minister on corpse charge

A Welsh presbyterian minister has been remanded in custody to Risley remand centre Lancashire, until January 2 accused of three offences, including causing criminal damage to a corpse.

The Rev Emyr Owen, aged 62, a bachelor, of Maethlon Close, Tywyn, Gwynedd, appeared before a special court in Tywyn on Christmas Eve.

He is accused of damaging a corpse between April 1976 and last Sunday in the parish of Tywyn, contrary to the Criminal Damage Act of 1971.

A second charge alleges that between the same dates in the parish of Tywyn, while at a place of worship, namely a chapel, he was guilty of indecent behaviour contrary to the Ecclesiastical Courts Jurisdiction Act of 1860, as amended by the Criminal Justice Act of 1967.

He was also accused of maliciously sending a letter on November 21 to a woman, threatening to kill her granddaughter, contrary to the Offences against the person Act 1861.

An application for a remand in custody was made by Inspector Iwan Roberts, and this was not opposed by the defence solicitor, Mr Meiron Wynne.

The magistrate, Mrs Cynthia Davies, granted legal aid. There was no application for reporting restrictions to be lifted.

Baby for actress

Sandra Dickenson, the television personality and wife of Peter Davison, the actor who formerly played Dr Who, gave birth to a 7lb 7oz daughter four minutes into Christmas Day at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London. She is their first child.

Victims of leak refuse cash offer

Re-Chem International has offered to pay a total of more than £3,500 in compensation to victims of a chemical leak at its plant near Southampton earlier this year, but the offer has not been accepted.

The leak, which the company admitted contained bromine, affected between 60 and 70 workers at a neighbouring chemical plant, Enichem at Hythe, Hampshire. Re-Chem was forced to shut down for a full investigation.

Victims suffered various symptoms, including stinging eyes, nausea, and vomiting. Lawyers fighting their case say that four people were quite seriously ill, and two still suffer side-effects from the leak on September 17.

Mr Campbell Kennedy, of the General, Municipal Boiler-makers and Allied Trades Union, said that the payment worked out at £50 a person. In most cases, the symptoms were not serious, but about four people were badly affected.

He emphasized that the figure put forward by *Re-Chem's insurance* company had still to be finalised, but it was part of any agreement that those affected would have to prove their illness. The four most seriously affected were expected to get more money.

Re-Chem specialize in the disposal of dangerous chemical waste. Its three plants in Britain have been the centre of controversy over the destruction, by incineration, of Poly Chorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), which have been proved to have cancer links.

Burning PCBs is a risky business because at too low a temperature they can be converted into a deadly dioxin.

Jaguar to reshuffle car dealerships

By Clifford Webb Motoring Correspondent

Jaguar has begun a reorganization of its dealerships in the United States and Europe which could cost the recently-privatized luxury car maker several million pounds in compensation payments to dealers it wants to dismiss.

Litigation has already started in the United States where about thirty dealers face the loss of their increasingly profitable Jaguar franchise. They have rejected "golden handshakes" believed to total more than £2.5 *million.*

In Europe, about 350 dealers have been told by Jaguar to make costly improvements to the standards of their premises and their staff. They have been given warning that failure to meet these minimum standards will lead to the withdrawal of their franchises.

It is believed that about a hundred dealers will be unable or unwilling to meet these conditions.

Mr John Egan, Jaguar's Chairman, has been dissatisfied for some time with the quality of many of his overseas dealers. Now, with record production of 33,400 cars assured for 1984, compared with 28,000 last year, and a turnover this year approaching £600,000 he feels strong enough to tackle the problem.

An increasing number of top dealers are pressing to join the Jaguar network. Privately owned import companies are being established in most European markets and have already committed £10million to building new import centres.

The companies are attracted by Jaguar's improved image, which has been bolstered by its successes on the race tracks of Europe. It won seven of the 12 *rounds in the 1984 European* Touring Car Championship which has been dominated for some years by BMW.

The US market takes more than half of Jaguar's production and with the pound's steady decline against the dollar, American sales become more profitable almost daily. However, overdependence on the United States brought the Coventry firm to the brink of bankruptcy three years ago. The rate of exchange then stooed at $2.40. Now it is hovering around a record low of $1.16.

To prevent that happening again, Mr Egan is putting more emphasis on the European market. He wants to sell 10,000 cars a year there, compared with the present 4,000.

Loopholes in EEC rules for cheaper cars

The Consumers Association is planning to test new EEC rules designed to make it easier to shop around in Europe in 1985 to find the cheapest new car.

But the final version of the regulations, to be published in the new year, is so full of loopholes that motor industry sources believe it will have little effect on bringing prices in Europe into line.

Belgium and Denmark, two of the cheapest countries in which to buy new cars, with discounts of up to 30 per cent on British prices, could even be excluded.

The regulations will stipulate that the price for a similar model of car should not vary by more than 12 per cent from one country to another.

They are supposed also to make it illegal for a car dealer in Europe to refuse to supply a right-hand-drive car for a motorist to take to Britain, or to insist on extra money for doing so.

But guidelines for the regulations indicate that dealers in some countries could ask for a "supplement" on top of the list price for providing a car they would not normally sell.

Body found dumped on golf course

The hunt for a killer who battered and strangled a woman before dumping her naked body on a golf course was continuing yesterday.

The victim has been indentified as Miss Deirdre Sainsbury, age 29. Her body was found near the sixteenth green at Denham Golf Club, Buckinghamshire, on Sunday but detectives do not know why she was killed.

Police know that she left friends in Dulwich, south-east *London at lunchtime on Satur*day, but do not know where she was going or how her body came to be at the golf course.

A woman walking her dog saw what she thought was a tailor's dummy in a tiny copse near the sixtheen green...but paid little attention to it. A few hours later she retured and discovered the body, partly hidden under trees and in undergrowth.

Police are convinced the body was taken in a vehicle to the golf course. Forensic evidence indicates that it was dragged up a leaf-sodden mound and into the undergrowth.

Dr Stephen Cordner, Home Office pathologist, told Thames Vally Police that the woman had been battered about the body and head before she was strangled. When last seen Miss Sainsbury was wearing a fur hat, green nylon anorak, and dark green Army baggy trousers.

Peking holidays at cut price

China is allowing package holiday price cuts to help fill hotel rooms in Peking this spring. A seven-night holiday in Peking and Moscow is being offered by P & O Air Holidays from £395 as a complete package. The cut price is possible because the company is using the "diplomatic" air route to Peking via Moscow, filling usually empty seats.

The stopover in Moscow includes a tour of the Kremlin and Red Square.

Jenkin to review GLC theatre sale

By Joe Ravitch

The transfer by the Greater London Council of three theatres to the Theatres Trust will be scrutinized by the Department of Environment next week in a review processs that could portend the future of all assets at present controlled by the council.

The department has insisted that the decision of whether to approve or reject the proposed sale will be made only "in the interest of the successor authorities."

Under the Paving Act of 1984, the council cannot transfer property or contract for goods or services worth more than £100,000 without the consent of Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment.

The council owns more that 12,000 buildings and monuments in London, ranging from Covent Garden market to Cleopatra's Needle. Mr Peter Pitt, a council spokesman, claims that the sale of theatres had been planned for a long time, and is meant to "preserve London's cultural heritage".

Opposition council spokesmen have alleged that the sale of the theatres, the Garrick, Lyric and Lyceum, valued at £2 million, for £1 each is only the first of many attempts by the council to "dump" its assets in order to keep them under Labour control rather than let them revert to Conservative-controlled councils after abolition in 1986.

Plan for computer guard

A new job as computer guard has been proposed by Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council, West Midlands, to protect its computerized records.

The proposal follows a report from Mr Tony Williams, the council's chief finance officer, which has raised fears that computer hackers may soon be defrauding their rate bills by plugging into town hall systems.

The hackers, home computer owners who break the computer-user codes of big organizations, can infiltrate systems and take out or create records.

Mr Williams says that once inside town hall computer systems the hackers can gain confidential information about neighbours, or council business, and put in messages saying they have paid their rates when they have not.

The guard would go on "hacker watch" by making regular "electronic patrols" on the council's computer lines and data records.

Mr Williams, who is in charge of computer security, says: "The job needs a full-time specialist, who can ensure all private information is kept secure".

Post-1919 houses gain most value

Homeowners in the South are seeing the value of their properties grow nearly twice as fast as those in the North. Figures published in *Housing Market 84* by the Anglia Building Society show that average house prices in the North rose by 5.6 per cent during the year, compared with 10. 5 per cent in the more affluent South.

London, the Home Counties and the South-east have shown the biggest rises but the pattern has changed since 1983.

"This year has seen a fundamental shift in the housing market. For the first time in 10 years, modern post-1919 resale housing has risen faster in value than new housing. It is also the only category to show an improvement over last year's percentage increases," Mr Peter Moreton, the society's chief surveyor, said yesterday.

"Pre-1919 property has undoubtedly been affected by the poor availability of improvement grants and the imposition in the summer of value added tax on building and improvement works," he added.

That trend is not evident in the south Midlands, however. In those counties new housing has increased in price by 10 per cent but post-1919 resales have increased by 18 per cent and pre-1919 resales by 21 per cent.

'Mad dog' who boasted about his killings

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Like many other men with awesome reputations there seemed little to distinguish Dominic McGlinchey, jailed for life in Belfast on Christmas Eve for murdering the mother of a police officer.

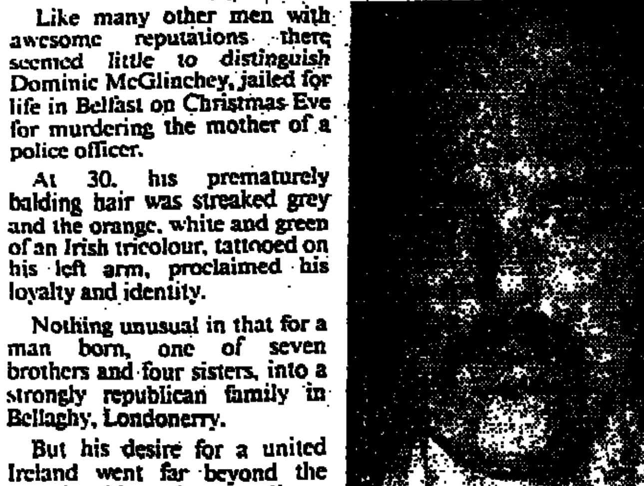
At 30, his prematurely balding hair was streaked grey and the orange, white and green of an Irish tricolour, tattooed on his left arm, proclaimed his loyalty and identity.

Nothing unusual in that for a man born, one of seven brothers and four sisters, into a strongly republican family in Bellaghy, Londonerry.

But his desire for a united Ireland went far beyond the traditional hard-line republicanism endemic in areas like south Londonderry, where he was to take part in terrorist attacks with one of the most ruthless gangs spawned in the present troubles.

To the security forces, McGlinchey was a determined, ruthless and resourceful terrorist able to instil fear into subordinates, who dubbed him "mad dog". To detectives who have seen him at close quarters he is believed to be psychopathic.

Such was the anxiety of the police to capture him that in the mid-1970s they issued a wanted poster and in 1982 the RUC Special Branch operated in the Irish Republic in an undercover operation aimed at detaining him.



Dominic McGlinchey: Jailed for life.

McGlinchey worked for a short period as a motor mechanic in his father's business before being interned for nine months in 1971. A year after his release, by then connected with the Provisional IRA, he was jailed for 18 months after being convicted of possessing rifles and ammunition.

Security forces believe that after his release he worked with one of the most notorious Provisional units, led by Francis Hughes, who died on hunger strike.

The police suspect that McGlinchey was involved in the construction and planting of at least 30 bombs, in 20 shootings and 12 armed robberies.

In an interview in the *Sunday Tribune* newspaper, which McGlinchey later denied giving, he allegedly admitted involvement in about 30 murders, 200 bombings – including the Ballykelly discotheque bomb in which 17 people died – and giving a gun to a person involved in the killing of three worshippers at a pentecostal church in South Armagh.

In the article McGlinchey allegedly said: "I like to get in close, to minimize the risk to myself. It's usually just a matter of who gets in first and by getting in close you put your man down first."

The Irish Supreme Court decision this year to order the extradition of Dominic McGlinchey indicated that the judiciary in the republic was redefining what constitutes a political offence after 15 years during which the issue has bedevilled Anglo-Irish relations.

Extradition, or the lack of it, has caused great resentment among Unionists in the north, who have demanded it as proof that the republic is not a haven from which terrorists can plan and launch their attacks.

Throughout the present troubles, the republic's courts had refused to return people wanted in the north for alleged terrorist crimes once they said their action was carried out for political reasons.

In 1977 the police in the republic had enough evidence to arrest him in co Monaghan and he was jailed for four and a half years after being convicted of hijacking a police car, possessing a pistol and resisting arrest.

While in jail unhappiness with the political strategy of the Provisionals during the hunger strike made him leave them and join the Irish National Liberation Army, military wing of the Irish Republican Socialist Party.

McGlinchey's luck ran out on St Patrick's Day this year. He was trapped by his wish to see his two young sons, who were spotted by the police in the republic and put under surveillance.

Inside the house where he was found was an arsenal containing 14 guns and 600 rounds of amunition. Eighteen hours later he was in the hands of two RUC officers – the first person extradited from the south to Northern Ireland for terrorist offences.

Beating the IRA, page 8

Christmas in the Holy Land

Uproar in the Knesset as MPs fight to eject visiting German Greens

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv

A delegation from West Germany's controversial Greens Party visited the Knesset in Jerusalem yesterday and caused a five-minute uproar on the floor, including a scuffle between staid deputies.

When the Greens appeared in the visitors' gallery during a plenary session, two frontbench members of the right-wing Techiya party rose from their seats and lifted a poster which read *Grünen-Braunen Raus*, linking the left-wing, anti-establishment party with the brown-shirted Nazis.

While deputies shouted incoherently across the floor and the Speaker dutifully banged his gavel, Mr Tewfiq Toubi, a Communist, tore a poster out of the hands of Miss Geula Cohen, his neighbour.

She tried to wrestle it back and her party associate, Professor Yuval Neleman, came to her aid. He and Mr Toubi scuffled but other MPs quickly separated them. One Labour deputy sat between Mr Toubi and Miss Cohen until the Speaker finally restored order.

The Greens are on the last leg of a four-country tour of the Middle East. The Israelis made it plain they were unwelcome because of reports that a paper prepared for the mission clearly indicated positions in support of the Palestine Liberation Organization and called for minimum contact with the Israeli government.

Brigette Heinrich, a Greens' MEP, convicted on charges of aiding Palestinian and German terrorists, was declared persona non grata and turned back at the border on Tuesday, when six other members of the delegation crossed Allenby Bridge from Jordan.

The Foreign Ministry refused a request for a high-level briefing "in view of the delegation's character and intentions". The Speaker declined to receive the Greens in the Knesset.

They visited it as guests of the progressive List for Peace, an Arab-Jewish party which supports the PLO and has two seats in the House. The Greens were refused facilities for a press conference on the grounds that they were guests of a party and *not Parliament. Ushers were* instructed not to switch on the television lights when they entered the hall.

Mr Yehoshoua Matza, a Likud deputy, asked the Speaker to bar them from the gallery, claiming they were "anti-Semite hosted by the extreme left." Mr Shlomo Hillel, the Speaker, said the rules permit every MP to invite guests to the visitors' gallery and he saw no reason to make an exception.

Travel curbs on Kahane

From Our Correspondent, Tel Aviv

The Knesset in Jerusalem agreed by 58 votes to 36 on Tuesday evening to suspend Rabbi Meir Kahane's right under the Parliamentary Immunity Law to visit places out of bounds to the general public.

The American-born rabbi, who was elected to Parliament in July, had announced that he would use his parliamentary immunity to enter Arab towns and villages to advise inhabitants to leave the Jewish state voluntarily or be forced out later.

He triggered a riot when he tried to enter Um-el-Fahm village on August 29 with his message. Police intercepted him to prevent bloodshed.

The action to deprive him of the freedom of movement granted under the immunity law was initiated by two deputies as a private member's bill. It was supported by the Attorney General, who has also drafted a Bill calculated to prevent Rabbi Kahane's re-election.

The Bill tabled in the Cabinet bans any party from running in Israeli elections if its programme supports racism or proclaims opposition to Israel's existence.

Still pending is a High Court suit filed by Rabbi Kahane's Kach party, charging police with violation of his immunity by preventing him from entering Um-el-Fahm.

In the Knesset's debate on Tuesday, Rabbi Kahane was denounced as a "Jewish Nazi" and "racist". He addressed the chamber, accusing "Hellenists" of the Labour Party of trying to close the "mouth of Judaism". He left the hall and did not return for the vote.

Some speakers argue that immunity privileges of deputies who sympathize with the PLO should also be restricted, but it was decided to separate the issues.

Parliamentary immunity, *meanwhile, was invoked by five* deputies of the right wing Techiya party who organized a Hanukka candle lighting ceremony in the heart of Nablus in the occupied West Bank.



Bethlehem's visitor

An Israeli soldier standing guard on a roof-top in the shadow of a church spire in Bethlehem, where pilgrims were gathering for Christmas festivities.

One surprise visitor to Bethlehem was Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, who went to the town on Christmas Eve with *"a special greeting from the Jewish people living in Zion"* (Moshe Brilliant writes).

His gesture, the first of its kind by a head of government since Bethlehem came under Israeli rule during the Six-Day War of 1967, was seen as part of Mr Peres' campaign to create new openings towards the minority communities

● SANTA SHOOED: A toy-toting Santa Claus, a rare sight in Israel, was shooed off the main Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway by police who deemed him a traffic hazard (Reuter reports).

King Juan Carlos pardons 1981 coup plot officer

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

King Juan Carlos has granted a pardon to one of the former officers convicted of taking part in the unsuccessful coup of February 23, 1981, according to reports published here yesterday.

Acting on the request of the Government, the king pardoned the former Civil Guard captain, Vicente Gómez Iglesias, who had already served nearly two-thirds of his six-year sentence.

He was the first of the plotters to receive a pardon, which came after he agreed in writing to respect and abide by the post-Franco constitution.

He was notified of his freedom on Christmas Eve.

A similar confidential offer was made recently to other former military men involved in the plot. It was apparently in reaction to such an offer that the unrepentant leader of the attempted coup, former Lieutenant-General Jaime Milans del Bosch, was quoted as saying just before Christmas that if he had it to do all over again he would.

Although Señor Gómez Iglesias is the first to be pardoned, he is the eighteenth of the 27 plotters to be released. There were 15 whose sentences were less than three years each, including the only civilian in the case. All were freed after serving their time. Two other officers were released on parole after serving two-thirds of their five-year sentences.

Former General Milans del Bosch was sentenced to 3 years but is expected to be eligible for freedom next year when he turns 70, the maximum age under military regulations for a prisoner to be in custody.

Among others still behind bars are Major-General Alfonso Armada, once the King's most trusted military adviser, and Antonio Tejero, the former Leutenant-Colonel in the Civil Guard, who held the Spanish Parliament hostage. Both men are serving 30-year sentences.

Señor Gómez Inglesias was assigned to Spain's principle espionage agency, the higher Centre for Defence Information, at the time of the plot.

The general court martial *which tried those accused of the* revolt gave him a three-year sentence, but the Supreme Court doubled it when it reveiwed the case.

Iran hits Spanish tanker in Gulf raid

Manama (AP, Reuter) – Iranian warplanes hit the Spanish-registered tanker, Aragon, with two missiles yesterday in the fourth attack on shipping in the Gulf in five days, Gulf shipping sources said.

The 122,582-ton vessel was *on its way to pick up crude* oil from the Saudi Arabian terminal at Ras Tanura. No injuries were reported among the crew.

Yesterday the 139,820-ton Indian registered tanker, Kanchenjunga, attacked by Iranian planes on Christmas Day, was reported heading towards Dubai with its cargo of 280,000 tons intact.

Arkhipov sees China reform

Peking, (Reuter) – The Chinese displayed their showpiece of economic reforms to Mr Ivan Arkhipov, visiting Soviet First Deputy Prime Minister, while their official news agency was linking the Soviet bloc's economic troubles to mismanagement and bad planning.

Mr Arkhipov, fresh from talks in Peking last weekend, was shuttled south to see the city of Canton and Shenzen special economic zone, both pioneer centres for the Government's radical reform programme.

Jail for copying

Taipei (Reuter) – A court sentenced owners of six Taiwanese computer companies to six months in jail for copyright infringement after a two-year legal battle. They copied the software programmes of the US Apple computer.

Ship blazes

Bremen, (AP) – A steward died on a burning Cypriot-registered cargo ship, the Blue Spirit in the North Sea, but a Danish vessel managed to rescue the 16 other crew.

Clapton ban

Jakarta – Eric Clapton's "Cocaine" and "Sister Morphine" by the Rolling Stones have been banned from a New Year's Eve rock festival in Indonesia because they are said to promote the use of drugs.

Kidnap pay-out

Cagliari (Reuter) – An Italian hotel owner, kidnapped two months ago was released after payment of a 700 million lire (£300,000) ransom.

A la carte

Amsterdam (Reuter) – Animal rights protesters threw stink bombs and poured smelly liquids into restaurants in Amsterdam and elsewhere which included frogs' legs, ostrich steaks and pigeon and tortoise soup on their menus.

Six die in Tehran bombings

Tehran (Reuter) – Two bombs exploding within 12 hours in the Iranian capital left six people dead and about 50 injured and caused extensive damage to cars and buildings, the national news agency, IRNA said yesterday.

The first bomb, concealed in a taxi outside a small hotel in a *busy area of Tehran, killed six* people and injured about 50 on Christmans night.

One person was reported injured by flying glass when the second bomb went off in an alley soon after dawn, yesterday.

Vehicles and buildings were damaged in the blasts. Police said the first bomb contained 20-25lb.

An anonymous caller to an international news agency claimed responsibility for the first explosion on behalf of the Mujahedin opposition group.

The Paris headquarters of the Mujahedin, however, denied responsibility and said afterwards it strongly condemned attacks on innocent people.

A news agency in Paris received another message claiming responsibility for the second blast on behalf of an exiled Iranian monarchist group, Arya.

The two explosions followed a bomb attack against an office of the Islamic Republican Party in Tehran two weeks ago and a car bomb outside the city's railway station in August, which killed 18 people.

A wave of bombings hit the Iranian capital three years ago when a bomb hidden in a lorry in Imam Khomeini Square killed dozens of people. Chief Justice Mohammed Hosseini Beheshti, President Mohammad Rajai and Prime Minister Mohamdad Javad Bahonar also died in bomb attacks.

Opposition chiefs freed in Karachi

From Hasan Akhtar Islamabad

The provincial authorities in the Sind region yesterday withdrew police guards from the houses of three important opposition leaders in Karachi, ending their house arrest.

The leaders were each placed under house arrest for 30 days on Monday, when they had reportedly intended to hold anti-regime public meetings in the city, on the day before celebrations marking the birthday of the late Mr M A Jinnah, the founder of Pakistan.

Ten other opposition leaders who were rounded up on Monday were still said to be under arrest. Among the three people freed yesterday was Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, a fofmer Sind chief minister and president of the Sind branch of the banned Pakistan People's Party. He had been one of the late Prime Minister Bhutto's closest associates.

Meanwhile, General Zia, who in a controversial referendum last week won approval to remain in power for five more years as elected president, has reportedly invited the opposition to join hands to make Pakistan a model Islamic state.

General Zia, who on Tuesday met reporters in Lahore and addressed a select gathering, said the "landslide mandate" in the referendum cleared the way for him to take some important political decisions,

Cambodia rebel base held by Vietnamese

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Counter-attacks by Cambodian guerrillas failed yesterday to dislodge Vietnamese forces from a resistance base they captured on Christmas Day.

After shelling the base at Nong Samet, about 1,000 Vietnamese soldiers with a smaller number of Cambodian Government troops overran it and destroyed its buildings.

The Vietnamese used four tanks and armoured troop carriers. More than 70 people are known to have been wounded. A rebel officer said about 100 Cambodians were killed but that has not been confirmed.

With 62,000 civilians fleeing from Nong Samet, 100,000 refugees have crossed into Thailand since Vietnam's offensive began nearly six weeks ago. Before the offensive, about 250,000 Combodian civilians supporting the anti-Vietnamese resistance were on the border.

There are 25,000 civilians packed and ready to flee from Ampil, headquarters of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, which has been shelled for several days and is expecting a further attack at any time.

Vietnam's aim, according to analysts, is to break up the border encampments which have been presented to the outside world as "Free Cambodia", and their population as supporters of the legal government of Cambodia, recognized by the United Nations.

Dispersal of the border people would also isolate the hated Khner Rouge and leave it as the sole opponent of Cambodia's Vietnamese-backed government. This would make it increasingly difficult for other countries to continue to support the resistance coalition and recognize it at the UN.

Mr Stephen Solarz, the American Congressman, hinted at this over Christmas during a visit to Phnom Penh.

Chess saga plods on into history

Moscow (AFP Reuter) – After a five-day interruption caused by the death of Dmitry Ustinov, the world chess championship battle resumed in the Hall of Columns here where the Defence Minister's body had lain in state over the weekend.

But the thirty-fifth game lasted no more than 17 moves.

The titleholder is finding the one win he needs to retain his crown elusive but yesterday's draw, the twenty-ninth in the series, established chess history. It made the Karpov – Kasparov contest the longest ever in the world championship.

Thirty-fifth game
Whte, *Karpov*; Blck, Kasparov



1	P-K4	P-QB4	2	Kt-KB3	P-Q3
3	P-Q4	PxP	4	KtxP	Kt-KB3
5	Kt-QB3	Kt-B3	6	B-KKt5	P-K3
7	Q-Q2	B-K2	8	0-0-0	0-0
9	P-B4	P-KR3	10	B-R4	P-K4
11	Kt-B5	BxKt	12	PxB	PxP
13	K-Kt1	P-Q4	14	BxKt	BxB
15	KtxP	B-K4	16	P-KKt3	PxP
17	PxP	Kt-K2		Draw agreed	

New Caledonia settlers clash with police

Noumea (AFP) - Anti-independence militants clashed with police on the French-ruled Pacific island of New Caledonia on Tuesday as authorities moved to dismantle roadblocks, the special envoy's office said. Police fired tear gas at the roadblocks, put up by Europeans on December 16 after three whites died and three *were injured in an arson attack.* Tension was high at Bourail, on the west coast, where the fire was started and police surrounded the town.

Earlier, pro and anti-independence militants were reported to be keeping an uneasy Christmas truce, with both sides manning roadblocks.

Europeans stayed on guard all night at Ouega, in the north, fearing an attack by pro-independence Kanaks (Melanesins), and at Bourail Europeans were stopping all cars and questioning occupants.

Kanak militants put up two new roadblocks at Houailou, on the east coast, one of them on the road to Bourail.

M Jacques Lafleur, a member of the French Parliament representing New Caledonia, said at a news conference that he "would not discuss (anything) more" with Paris so long as the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front leader, M Eloi Machoro, was not put in prison.

M Lafleur said: "New Caledonia has to consider itself in a state of legitimate defence". Violence

He described Thio as in a state of siege, with Kanak militants allegedly killing livestock, taking over houses, theatening local people with arms and searching passers-by.

M Lafleur accused the authorities of double standards, and attacked the police action at Bourail against "people behaving legally".

M Lafleur, who flew to Bourail by helicopter with six of the territory's ministers, said after meeting local military commanders that he had not reached agreement with them, and would submit – unspecified – proposals later.

Turks talk trade with Russians

Ankara (Reuter). – The Soviet Prime Minister, Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, had talks with President Kenan Evren yesterday on the second day of his official visit to Turkey.

Western diplomats said Turkey viewed the 48-hour visit, the first by a Soviet premier in nine years, mainly as a business affair. Mr Tikhonov is due to sign a long-term economic cooperation accord with his host, the Prime Minister, Mr Turgut Ozal.

The two sides are expected to conclude a five-year trade pact aimed at raising exchanges to a total of $6 billion (£5 billion) between 1986-1990, from a planned $570 million next year.

For a 25-year period from 1987 Turkey is to buy Soviet natural gas delivered by pipeline through Bulgaria. The amount is to rise to five or six billion cubic metres a year from 1993.

In 1985, Turkey is committed to provide Moscow with its main export goods, foodstuffs and textiles, in exchange for machinery, chemicals, oil and electricity.

An agreement published this week in the Turkish official gazette said a second high-voltage power line would be built to the north-eastern town of Kars from Leninakan in the Soviet Union by 1987.

Local newspapers yesterday published appeals by Turkish fishermen to Moscow to reverse a decision to declare a 200-mile economic zone in the Black Sea. Mr Ozal was reported to have raised the issue with Mr Tikhonov yesterday, and had been assured the Moscow would study it.

Mr Tikhonov, aged 79, is the most senior Soviet poititician to visit Turkey since the late Prime Minister, Alexi Kosygin, in 1975. No Western head of government has visited Turkey since the 1980 military coup.



Survivors: Politburo members following the urn containing Marshal Ustinov's ashes. Behind the soldiers are (from left) Mr Mikhail Solomentsov, Mr Tikhonov, Mr Gromyko, Mr Romanov, Mr Dinmukhamed Kunaev and Mr Grishin.

Fading of Moscow's old guard

Moscow (Reuter) – The line-up of Kremlin leaders in Red Square for the funeral on Christmas Eve of the Defence Minister, Dmitry Ustinov, illustrated the changes caused by deaths and dismissals here in the past two years.

Only one full member of the Politburo at Monday's ceremony was present eight years ago when Marshall Ustinov's predecessor, Marshal Andrei Grechko, was buried. He was the Moscow city party chief, Mr Viktor Grishin.

President Chernenko, whose absence was attributed to the extreme cold (-7 deg F) rather than illness, was only a candidate Politburo member in 1976, on the fringes of the leadership.

Leonid Brezhnev, party leader at the time, and his successor, Yuri Andropov, have since died, as have the Prime Minister, Alexei Kosygin, and President Nikolai Podgorny. Of the other Politburo members on the mausoleum in April 1976, Fyodor Kulakov, the party ideologist Mikhail Suslov and Marshal Ustinov himself are dead.

Mr Andrei Kirilenko and Mr Kirill Mazurov, once regarded as rising stars, have been dismissed and live in relative obscurity. Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, and Politburo members based in the regions were absent from Marshall Grechko's funeral.

Of those present on Lenin's mausoleum on Monday – apart from Mr Gromyko and Mr Grishin – the Prime Minister, Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, was only a deputy premier eight years ago and not even a candidate Politburo member.

Mr Grigory Romanov was party chief in Leningrad, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov was a relatively junior provincial official and Mr Vitaly Vorotnikov, another member of the Kremlin's younger generation, had still to rise through the party ranks.

Nato countries agreed to boycott Monday's funeral to protest against Moscow's invasion of Afghanistan

After the funeral speeches, which lasted barely 30 minutes, the Politburo members, several of them pulling the flaps of their fur hats over their ears, descended from the mausoleum.

Mr Romanov placed an urn containing Marshal Ustinov's ashes in a prepared niche in the Kremlin wall.

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Four ministers sacked in Nimeiry reshuffle

Khartoum (Reuter) – President Nimeiry of Sudan has dismissed four ministers and two senior religious and party officials.

The Sudan News Agency said the decree named Dr Abdul-Rahman Abdul-Wahab as Minister of Finance and Economic Planning to replace Ibrahim Moneim Mansour. Fawzi Ibrahim Wasfi was named Minister of Cooperation, Trade and Supply to replace Gaafar Hassan Saleh.

The Industry Minister, Muhammad al-Bashir al-Wagi was also ousted. His Under-Secretary, Abdul-Kader Suliman, took a new portfolio of Minister of State for Industry. The Minister of State for Political Affairs at the Presidency, Omar Muhammad Yassin, was dismissed.

President Nimeiry replaced the head of the Supreme Council of Religious Affairs, Youssef al-Khalifa abu Bakr.

Ahmed Abdul-Rahman Muhammad, secretary to the Committee for Political and Social Affairs in the Sudanese Socialist Union, the country's only political party, was also sacked.

Journalist freed by Chilean guerrilla group

Santiago (AFP) – A Chilean journalist, Señor Sebastian Bertolone, was freed here on Christmas Day by guerrillas who had kidnapped him a week earlier. Señor Bertolone, deputy editor of the Government daily, *La Nacion*, was turned over by *the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic* Front to the Archbishop of Santiago, Mgr Juan Francisco Fresno, who had appealed for his release.

The group had said it would not free the journalist until the regime of General Pinochet published a three-page manifesto.

US and Japan sign pact on defence

Tokyo, (AFP) – Japan and the United States yesterday signed a joint war plan for repelling any attack on Japan by outside forces, the Japanese Defence Agency announced.

The document was signed by Japan's top military officer, General Keitaro Watanabe, and *the* commander of US forces in Japan, General Edward Tixier.

Although the plan's provisions were classified top secret, the *Ashai Shimbun* newspaper said the agreement envisaged co-ordinated operations to repulse a conventional attack on Japan by Soviet forces.

Mintoff may head bank

Valletta – Malta's former prime minister, Mr Dom Mintoff, will not be a member of Dr Carmelo Mifsud Bonnici's Cabinet (Austin Sammut writes).

The new Cabinet was sworn in on Christmas Eve before President Barbara. It remains largely unchanged. Dr Mifsud Bonnici has also taken on the Interior Ministry post held by Mr Mintoff.

Sources said Mr Mintoff who resigned on Saturday, would become governor of the Central Bank of Malta, a post which has been vacant for many years, and would also head the Government's oil division (which is responsible for exploration)

European notebook

Ireland leaves just a few technical problems




As something of a Christmas present to the EEC, Ireland has produced an end-of-term series of decisions which can allow it to claim that it has been one of the more successful presidents of the council of ministers.

After all the pomp of President Mitterrand's summit at Fontainbleau last June, Ireland was left with what appeared to be a thankless task. France let it be known that in reaching agreement on how much compensation Britain should receive in future, the major hold-up to EEC progress had been overcome. Ireland had little to do but sweep up a few "technical problems".

But those problems were in the best tradition of Community doublespeak. They were interlinked and tangled together in a new incomprehensible fashion. Things began very badly when Britain dug in and refused to agree to pay more money to bail the Community out until it was fully satisfied on its budget claims.

But from that nadir last July, the untangling process has gone on and in the course of December an unusually large number of decisions has been taken.

As far as the budget is concerned, Britain now has a set of rules on controlling expenditure which the Government believes will satisfy the House of Commons. In return, Britain has agreed to pay extra money to help meet Community bills this year.

As far as enlargement is concerned, the Community now has an agreed negotiating position on every single subject. In the past fortnight Spain accepted terms on steel and industrial tarrifs, and negotiations are under way at official level on the most difficult areas of agriculture and fisheries. The applicant countries do not like what is on offer but now talk confidently of an end to negotiations in time for them to join at the start of 1986.

Part of the enlargement deal meant that the Community had to agree ways of controlling its runaway cheap wine production, which was proving increasingly expensive. That agreement, which has eluded ministers for a very long time, has now been made. As far as the developing world is concerned, the year-long negotiations for the third *Lomé convention with 64* countries has been completed and signed. Meanwhile the Community has found the money to provide 1,200,000 tons of cereal to help feed the famine stricken areas of Africa next year.

As far as the internal market is concerned, there is now agreement on a single document for exporters to take goods across Community borders – something which has been a dream since the day the Treaty of Rome was signed.

As far as research is concerned there is now agreement on a small but real Community programme, looking into advanced areas like biotechnology and fusion.

As far as the environment is concerned, lead-free petrol regulations have at long last been adopted,

Ireland leaves over some very difficult problems. Somehow the Community has to muddle through from the start of next year without a budget. The enlargement negotiations remain very delicate. Greece is threatening to block everything unless it is promised substantial extra aid.

But Italy takes over at a time when there is a feeling of momentum, when a new Commission is poised to start and when Britain, at long last, is not worried about its own budget contribution. If Ireland were France, it might well claim that it had solved everything but a few technical problems.

Ian Murray

هكذا من الاصل

Grim future for Afghanistan five years after Russia invaded

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi

Five years ago today the Russians invaded Afghanistan, seized Kabul and installed Mr Babrak Karmal as their puppet ruler. For the invaders, for the guerrillas fighting them, and for the West, the political and military essentials of the conflict have not changed much since 1979, and it is hard today to be anyting but pessimistic about the long-term outcome.

The Russians are determined to remain and the *mujahidin* guerrillas are just as determined to drive them out. The county is ravaged and fifth of its people live as refugees in Pakistan.

The Afghan regime is unstable, the ruling party riven by murderous feuding between its Parcham and Khalq factions. The Afghan Army is, as ever, a demoralized force, replenished by desperate and unpopular conscription drives and drained by desertion.

Meanwhile, the *mujahidin* are unable to unite to offer a plausible government in exile. And this disunity, or independence, is reflected in Afghanistan itself, where resistance groups cling to tribal loyalties more ancient than this young war, and pursue old quarrels as well as fight the Russians.

At the same time, the Russians take the long view and evidently believe that massive force and relentlessness will prevail.

This year was meant to be a military watershed. A Russian and Afghan offensive took and held the floor of the Panjshir valley, north-east of Kabul, a strategic area and the scene of many battles, but the offensive failed to deal a decisive blow to the guerrillas.

The *mujahidin* have been fighting back, overrunning army posts and forcing the withdrawal of Russian troops.

A familiar pattern can be expected to continue: some Afghan troops will go over to the guerrillas, and some *mujahidin* will "surrender", join the militia, and then go back to the resistance, clothed, fed and armed.



Mr Karmal: Plagued by party feuds.

In the past, winter caused a fall off in the fighting, but there are signs this year that many guerrillas are not hibernating. Conditions are tougher, but the weather limits the activity of helicopter gunships, the *mujahidin's* great enemy, and the guerrillas are mounting attacks on power lines and supply convoys.

There has been an increase in attacks in and around Kabul in recent months. Bombs and rockets have damaged the airport, broadcasting installations, the Soviet Embassy and homes of senior Russians and ruling party members.

In September the Afghan airline's only DC10 was badly damaged by a rocket as it landed.

This is one of the changes in the war: the *mujahidin* now have some ground-to-air missiles. Naturally, they say they need more.

The question of arming the *mujahidin* remains delicate and crucial. Money from the United States and some Gulf countries is funnelled through Pakistan and, after going through a shadowy purchasing system, is translated into small arms.

If there is any hope of Russian withdrawal, and it is *slim, it would lie in a thaw* between Russia and the West. Thinking about Afghanistan needs to go beyond withdrawal.

Five years on, the Russians are talking tough. They may, as Tass indicated recently, increase their occupying army of about 115,000. Losses are bearable and, unlike the Americans in Vietnam, the Russians are under no pressure at home. Meanwhile, the people of Afghanistan continue to suffer.

● EX-KING'S MESSAGE: The former king of Afghanistan, Mohammad Zahir Shah, who lives in exile in Rome, sent a message to mark the anniversary of the invasion (Hazhir Teimourian writes).

The resistance was "bereft of effective outside help", but the Russians had failed to bring more than a quarter of a country under permanent occupation. But because of repeated bombardment of irrigation channels and dams, Afghanistan was threatened with catastrophe, he said.

The former king appealed to "the free world and especially neighbouring Islamic countries" to provide the resistance with effective support.



Hare Krishna wedding: The heir to the Ford fortune, Mr Alfred Ford, aged 34, whose spiritual name is Ambarish Das, married Dr Sharmilla Bhattacarya, aged 29, in front of 1,000 guests in New South Wales yesterday.

Budapest's dialogue with the West

Kadar walks the détente tightrope

Whatever the strain in relations at the present time between Nato and the Warsaw Pact, Hungary continues to promote the interests of détente by ensuring it continues a dialogue with the West. In the first of two articles, Richard Bassett, recently in Hungary, looks at the way Budapest's foreign policy expresses its desire to retain friendly relations with the West.

Hungary's party leader, Janos Kadar, has insisted on several occasions during the last two years that small European nations have an important role to play as a bridge between East and West. Since last year a political observers put the exact date as Vice-President George Bush's visit to Budapest in September, 1983 – Hungary has pursued an active foreign policy.

HUNGARY

Part 1

Even in the chill of last December, when the Warsaw Pact had broken off all arms control talks, Mr Kadar, in a visit to East Berlin, felt compelled to enunciate that there always remained "diplomatic possibilities of overcoming dangerous tensions". Since then, he has made his actions fit his words and no fewer than four Nato leaders have been his guests in Budapest.

Setting the pace was the visit of Mrs Thatcher in February, followed in April by the Italian Prime Minister, Signor Bettino Craxi, and two months later the West German Chancellor, Herr Helmut Kohl. Then it was the turn of Belgium's Prime Minister, Mr Wilfried Martens. During every visit, the issue of improving East-West relations was high on the agenda.

Not surprisingly, this policy, similar in content but very different in style to that of President Nicolae Ceauçescu of Romania, has drawn fire from the more hardline members of the Warsaw Pact. An editorial published earlier this year in the official Czech daily, *Rude Pravo*, accused certain unnamed allies of confusing national with international interests.

The attack was promptly countered by Mr Matyas Szuros, a Hungarian Central Committee member, who since the end of last year has been in charge of the country's foreign affairs committee. In a long speech reprinted in the official Hungarian press, he stressed the belief heard in many quarters of the Government that historical ties can always be pursued for the good of common interests and aims.

No better illustration of this attitude in practice was Hungary's position over the proposed visit to Bonn by the East German leader, Herr Erich Honecker, in the autumn. While *Pravda* fired off volleys of criticism, attacking inter-German relations and accusing Bonn of revanchism, the Hungarian weekly, *Magyarorszag*, published a long article condoning what it called "broad dialogue" between East and West Germany.



Mr Kadar: Role as East-West bridge.

Despite the frosty rhetoric from Prague and Moscow – some would say perhaps because of it – the cancellation of the East German leader's visit brought Berlin and Budapest together. Such was their mutual support during this period that it is no exaggeration to talk of a Berlin-Budapest axis in foreign affairs.

However unequivocally Budapest states its desire for détente, Hungarian officials are quick to assert that Hungary remains a loyal and reliable member of the Warsaw Pact and the tension in the political climate is blamed exclusively on Washington. The point was emphasized by Mr Kadar during his recent visit to Paris, though at the same time the visit illustrated his country's equally firm desire to appear reliable to the West.

For Hungary, détente is not just a political interest but an essential prerequisite for economic stability as the Hungarians develop more and more links with Western business.

Such links are viewed with interest in the Kremlin, and the Russians have insisted in recent months that Budapest integrate the Hungarian economy more into the Eastern bloc, a development which would inevitably mean, as more and more goods were sent East, less trade with the West.

But, even under this pressure, the Hungarian Government remains convinced it will preserve its dialogue with the West on an informal, as well as formal basis. As the recent visit to London of Mr Szuros showed, regular meetings at an informal level have already developed to complement the state visits to Budapest.

Even if the chill is not taken off East-West relations in the near future, Hungary will continue to walk with care the elaborate tightrope its active foreign policy has erected since last year.

Tomorrow: Budapest's new rich.

Sri Lanka drops Tamil peace effort

From Our Special Correspondent
Colombo

President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka has suffered a severe setback with the collapse of his efforts to find a political answer to the Tamil secessionist problem.

Confronted by the objections of Tamil leaders, the influential Buddhist clergy, some of the ruling party and the main opposition party, the government yesterday dropped proposals to give Tamils a degree of devolved power.

For the Tamil minority what was offered was not enough. For the Sinhalese majority it was too much.

No one doubts that the president's chances of finding a political solution to the Tamil question, and ending the terrorist campaign, have thinned drastically.

Faced with some dissent in his own party and Cabinet, the president sacked Mr Cyril Mathew, the industries minister and a leading Sinhalese militant, who had spoken out against the devolutionary ideas.

Meanwhile, Tamil separatists who kidnapped two police inspectors yesterday demanded a ransom of £166,000 in gold. The Sinhalese officers were captured last week at the railway station in Jaffna, the chief city of the predominantly Tamil North.

Philippines opposition in unity deal

From Keith Dalton
Manila

Philippine Opposition leaders yesterday pledged to support a single presidential candidate and agreed on a common programme, including the removal of US military bases and legalization of the Communist Party.

The attempt at unity was prompted by continuing reports that President Ferdinand Marcos, who is 63, may not survive until the 1987 presidential elections. It is an attempt to minimize the danger of a last minute scramble for power by Marcos opponents, who have been out of office for 19 years.

The nine-page agreement was signed at the suburban house of Mrs Corazon Aquino, widow of the murdered Opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, by nine possible presidential contenders or their representatives, backed by influential business, church and professional groups.

Mr Salvador Laurel, president of the 12-party alliance, Unido, and former Senator Eva Estrada Kalaw, of the Liberal party, did not sign. The selection was denounced as arbitrary and elitist by Opposition MPs who had not been consulted.

The platform included respect for basic political rights, the drafting of a new constitution and an amnesty for 1,000 political prisoners.

Mandela excluded from Botha prison amnesty

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Fifty-four long term prisoners, including two elderly political detainees, are to be freed before the end of the year under an amnesty granted by President Botha, of South Africa as a gesture of Christmas goodwill.

Brigadier Erika Van Zyl, of the prison service said prisoners aged over 65 would qualify, but the amnesty would not apply to those serving life sentences. These include Mr Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress (ANC), who is aged 65 and has been in jail for more than 21 years.

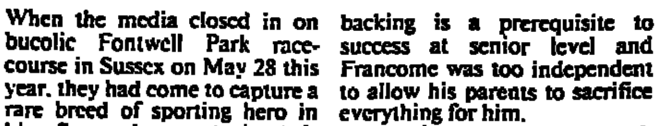
She said the two political prisoners to be freed were aged 76 and 78 and had served most of their seven and eight-year sentences.

In another development, two trained ANC guerrillas have been shot dead and four others arrested in an operation mounted by South African police and the Air Force, according to a statement issued in Pretoria on Christmas Day. Lieutenant-General H. G. de Witt, the acting police commissioner, said the operation, which was continuing, had been launched in the remote Ingwavuma area of northern Natal between the southern border of Mozambique and Swaziland.

General de Witt said the operation began on December 14.

SPECTRUM

Cavalier with winning ways



The Times Profile: John Francome

When the media closed in on bucolic Fontwell Park racecourse in Sussex on May 28 this year, they had come to capture a rare breed of sporting hero in his finest hour. And their quarry did not disappoint them. John Francome, shaggy mane of curls billowing out beneath his jockey's cap, urged the 10-year-old gelding, Don't Touch, home to the 1,036th victory of his extraordinary career and so broke Stan Mellor's all-time record for the number of winners ridden under National Hunt Rules.

The comprehensive coverage reflected the fact that Francome is much more than a record-breaking jockey. This dashing rider who has a seemingly cavalier attitude to authority, a cover-girl wife and an enviable life-style is also highly charismatic, and his every move is news in a far wider field than racing.

Twelve months on from Fontwell, however, those same television and newspapermen will, it seems, be preparing to cover a less happy Francome landmark – his last ride. For, while dismissing newspaper reports that he will retire before the end of the current National Hunt campaign, Francome says that after 15 years in the saddle "the odds are heavily" that this season will be his last.

'He is remarkable. He can turn his hand to anything'

Francome is the first to admit that National Hunt racing has been more than kind to him, and he says he will greatly miss the sporting cameraderie of "the winter game". But now as ever *with an eye to the main chance*, he is turning to the more commercially rewarding and glamorous world of the Flat as a trainer.

Twenty horse boxes have already been built in the yard next to his magnificent stone house in Lambourn, which Francome built himself with the hands that also guide a raw novice chaser over his first fences; and he has agreed the use of some neighbouring gallops across the lush Berkshire downs which are the finest in England after Newmarket.

Fred Winter, the leading trainer and former champion jockey, who has retained Francome throuthout his career, is in no doubt that he will make an equally spectacular success of his new role.

"He is a quite remarkable person. He can turn his hand to anything", Winter says. "One of the reasons we get on so well is because we rarely talk horses. We can drive to the races and talk for two or three hours about anything and everything. John is interested in every aspect of life."

As the son of a builder in Swindon, life for Francome began in a fairly unremarkable way. *There was no family* connection with horses, but through a childhood involvement with pony clubs he graduated to show jumping where his natural empathy with horses revealed itself.

He was chosen for the British junior show jumping team in 1968 and won a gold medal at the European championships. A glittering career lay ahead, but in that particular branch of sport considerable financial backing is a prerequisite to success at senior level and Francome was too independent to allow his parents to sacrifice everything for him.

He left school at 15 to work in a car-body repair shop. But the lure of horses remained and 12 months later he obtained a job with Winter through a friend, and the hard labour of stable life began.

There was a fairytale beginning – victory on his first ride, Multigrey, at Worcester. He was brought to earth when his next mount landed him in hospital with a broken wrist.

Winter, whom many still regard as perhaps the finest jump jockey of all time, is certainly among Francome's greatest admirers, but he recalls that at the beginning Francome could not ride a decent finish. He had to be taught to blend timing, rhythm and fitness at the business end of the race, in other words jockeyship allied to his natural horsemanship.

Thereafter his rise was steady *rather than meteoric. Baby*-sitting and car washing helped to supplement his income. The biggest obstacle to Francome's progress in the early days was his weight, which suddenly climbed by nine or ten pounds. He remembers taking a liberal dose of the notorious diuretics before riding a horse called Osceola for Winter. Doubled up with cramp, he was virtually a passenger on the horse's back and the experience unnerved him to such an extent that he seriously considered giving it up.

Fortunately, a dietician helped him to stabilize his weight and the talent flowered. Other stables began to notice the stylish West Country lad. With more and more rides coming his way he rose to become champion jockey for the first time in the 1975/76 season. He has topped the list five more times since then and recorded his fourth successive century and his highest ever total last season when he rode 131 winners.

In 1978 Francome rode Winter's outstanding horse, Midnight Court, to win the blue riband of steeplechasing, the Cheltenham Gold Cup. Among many other big-race triumphs, Francome also won the 1981 Champion Hurdle on Sea Pigeon. It was his handling of this idiosyncratic veteran, leaving his victory swoop until the last 50 yards, that provided one of the most exciting demonstrations of what many see as his greatest asset – his uncanny judgement of pace.

Winter, however, is adamant that it is his placing of a horse at a fence that gives him the edge over his contemporaries. Francome, Winter says, adapted his *horsemanship and show jumping* expertise to racing pace quite brilliantly.



Saddled with success: Francome has adapted show jumping expertise to racing pace

This is also borne out by the fact that in a sport where broken bones are an everyday occurrence. In the past three seasons Francome has hit the ground about one in twenty rides, about two-thirds the average casualty rate. Francome's ability to stay upright has brought him fewer injuries than many others – two broken arms and a dislocated shoulder being the worst of them.

Francome himself modestly puts this down to luck. "When you're lying on the ground after a fall it's just a question of whether one kicks you in the head or the back or manages to avoid you", he says. "I know that tomorrow I could break my neck and spend the rest of my life in a wheelchair."

Unfortunately, controversy has often ridden in tandem with success throughout Francome's career. In 1978 he was fined £750 for passing on information

'My style of riding can make it look like I'm not trying'

to the flamboyant bookmaker, John Banks. "I said nothing to Banks that I would not have said in front of the guvnor", Francome says unrepentantly. Winter, as always, stood by Francome without question.

Last season was by far the worst in Francome's career as far as brushes with authority were concerned. There was nothing he can think of to justify the initiation of what many saw as some sort of vendetta.

"Hardly a day went by without the stewards sending for me," he recalls. "They had me in three times in one afternoon at Newton Abbot. If they'd taken the trouble to look after the race they would have seen the horses had done enough."

Francome was referring to the fact that the inquiries usually concerned his alleged failure to ride a horse out to obtain the best possible placing. During this fraught period his belief that he was being victimized intensified when he was fined £75 for being too easy on Winter's bright young chasing prospect, Observe, at Newbury. Two weeks later he was fined an identical amount for hitting the same horse too hard when he won at Chepstow.

"Let's face it," Francome says candidly, "my style of riding can make it look like I'm not trying. Nobody will give a horse a harder time than me if I think it will win the race, but I don't have to pick up my stick to know how tired they are."

John Jenkins, the prolific young Epsom trainer for whom Francome rode an unprecedented spate of winners at the start of this season, sees Francome's quiet style as his best attribute. "John doesn't punish a horse needlessly like some jockeys if it has no chance. They last a lot longer if he rides them."

One answer to the cynics is Francome's strike rate. Before this season he had a career record of 22.1 per cent winners from rides – better than twice the average. In the first half of

'I don't give a damn what people think about me'

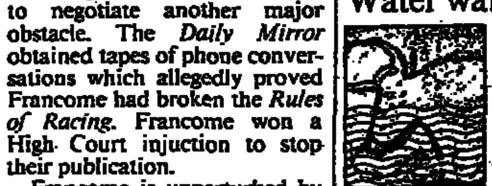
this season he has already ridden the fastest 50 winners ever.

Apart from his style, which can make winning look breathtaking in its simplicity and contemptuous in its execution, it is Francome's outspoken attitude that has often been his downfall. After the succession of inquests and fines, Francome spoke at the Derby Awards luncheon last December and, referring to the current craze for Cabbage Patch Dolls, said: "We've had Cabbage Patch Kids for years – we call them stewards". The remark brought the house down. A few weeks later Francome received a fine of unprecedented severity for a relatively trivial offence at Newbury. He dropped his hands in the last 50 yards on a horse called Easter Lee and narrowly lost second place. He had no chance of catching the winner and the horse appeared to have given his all. But the fine was of £2,500, the maximum allowable under Jockey Club rules.

Hard on the heels of the Newbury affair, Francome had to negotiate another major obstacle. The *Daily Mirror* obtained tapes of phone conversations which allegedly proved Francome had broken the *Rules of Racing*. Francome won a High Court injuction to stop their publication.

Francome is unperturbed by disgruntled punters who give him a rough ride if they think he has ridden a bad race. "Punters always think the last thing that's at fault is their judgement", he says. "I don't give a damn what people in the stands say about me."

His frankness is often mis-taken by outsiders for arrogance but inside the sport he is universally respected for his talent and well-liked, particularly by the other jockeys. So when National Hunt racing mourns the loss of a favourite son, the Flat can look forward to gaining one.



John Karter
Racing editor



Francome with his wife Miriam, his first victory on Multigrey in 1970 (centre) and his 1000th win in 1984

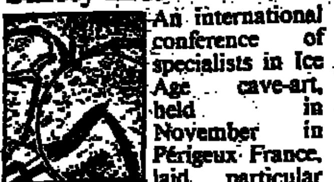
TRACK RECORD

Born: Dec 13, 1952
Married: June 26, 1976, to Miriam Strigner
First win: Dec 2, 1970, on Multigrey at Worcester
1,000th win: Feb 29, 1984, on Observe at Worcester
Set all-time record for winners under National Hunt Rules on Don't Touch at Fontwell Park, May 28, 1984
Biggest wins: 1978 Cheltenham Gold Cup on Midnight Court; 1981 Champion Hurdle on Sea Pigeon
Career record: 1970/71: 4 wins, 1971/72: 19, 1972/73: 21, 1973/74: 30, 1974/75: 70, 1975/76: 96, 1976/77: 88, 1977/78: 83, 1978/79: 94, 1979/80: 69, 1980/81: 105, 1981/82: 120, 1982/83: 106, 1983/84: 131.

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: CAVE ART

Safety first



An international conference of specialists in Ice Age cave-art, held in November in Périgeux, France, laid particular emphasis on the problem of degradation, conservation and public access. Since Lascaux and, more recently, Altamira were forced to close their doors to tourists for the sake of the art's survival, great progress has been made in the task of preserving this fragile and rare resource while allowing the public as much access as safety permits.

Certain caves simply can never be visited by the public: in some cases, water or narrow passages make access difficult and even physically dangerous; more often, conditions are such that the art is too vulnerable to accidental or malicious damage.

Vandal patrol



Many figures have been damaged deliberately by being pelted with clay, covered with graffiti, or even carefully obliterated. In 1982 one man was caught trying to remove – for his private collection – a bison-head from the magnificent sculptured frieze at Angles-sur-l'Anglin, now irreparably damaged. The worst problem is that of forced access into locked caves by those who feel they have the right to pass anywhere without permission: many sites, decorated or not, have their doors broken down with monotonous regularity, and not even steel gates and concrete are much help against the modern cutting equipment and explosives that are sometimes used by trespassers. In France there are now four surveillants de grottes, *or patrolling guards.*

In the past, speleologists tended to receive the blame for most of the damage and break-ins, but there is no reason to suppose they include more vandals than any other group. Indeed, archaeology has a tremendous debt to speleologists, who have made almost all the cave-art discoveries of recent years, as well as finding cave-burials and other sites. Nevertheless, even with the best intentions, it is possible to do enormous damage to a prehistoric site if one is unaware of the correct precautions needed, and in the past speleologists have destroyed Ice Age footprints and other remains by not keeping to a single path. The answer, of course, is contact between prehistorians and cave-explorers, with explanation of the issues involved, and this is now the norm in cave-art regions.

Water watch



It is not only the vandals or the micro-organisms carried in by the visitors (as at Lascaux) which damage the art. When water began to flow down the "Salon Noir" of the cave of Niaux in 1978, carrying away paint and destroying figures, blame was first laid on condensation caused by the tourists; but chemical analysis has shown that it was, in fact, water infiltrating from the mountain surface above, and it is believed that a change of vegetation led to this flow: pasture was abandoned to trees, and the resulting thick soil layer was a big reserve of water. The same had clearly happened at other periods of history, and traces of similar ancient water flows can be seen in the cave. Thus, careful watch is now being kept on the vegetation above decorated caves: for example, infra-red aerial photographs of the hill of Lascaux show its thermic zones.

Lascaux is particularly at risk, since it is quite close to the surface. A forest fire on its hill came close to having dire consequences; and a number of other factors are causing concern, such as the forest clearance for new car parks built on the hill for easy access to Lascaux II.

People peril

A "healthy" decorated cave can cope with the brief change in temperature caused by visitors; but of course frequent crowds have a more durable and potentially harmful effect on temperature as well as on the level of carbon dioxide. Careful monitoring of the number of visits and visitors has therefore been carried out for some years: the "top ten" public caves in France receive tens of thousands of visitors annually, with the highest (70,000) recorded at Pech Merle. The great majority of such visits are crammed into the period from June to September, and groups of 20 to 25 people seem to be the norm, with the number of groups per day sometimes limited. Regrettably, studies suggest that this is excessive, not only because of the effect on air and temperature, but also because a guide simply cannot control and watch so many people.

Distant views



It is necessary to provide alternative means of "visiting" the caves. There are several ways of doing so – in books, slides, television, video cassettes (as at Altamira) and films; the Centre of Prehistoric Art at Le Thot, Dordogne, provides admirable facilities of this kind, and huge advances have been made recently in the photography of cave-art. The art of the fascimile is also reaching new heights, and the prime example is Lascaux II (see The Times *July 5 1984) which has already been visited by 350,000 people since it opened in July 1983. The technology which produced it is already almost obsolete, and even more accurate reproductions can and will be made. The use of infra-red distance meters, of lasers and of stereo-photogrammetry to produce minutely detailed records of cave-contours or of 3-D figures enables exact replicas to be made without even touching the surfaces in question.*

Paul Bahn

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 529)

ACROSS
8 Imprisonment (13)
9 Weapon (3)
10 Spanish Fascist (9)
11 Futuristic writing (3,2)
13 Refuse (7)
16 Looking at (7)
19 Nearby pub (5)
22 Completely (9)
24 Anger (3)
25 Wealth seeker (7,6)

DOWN
1 Essential elements (6)
2 Large prawns (6)
3 Wall scrawls (8)
4 Vendor (6)
5 Obtain (4)
6 Two-piece bathers (6)
7 Telltale (6)
12 Employers' alliance (1,1,1)
14 More than ample (8)
15 Ocean (3)
16 Confirm (6)
17 Bear (6)
18 Ship's kitchen (6)
20 Hole (6)
21 Sumptuousness (6)
23 Friend (4)

SOLUTION TO No 528
ACROSS: 1 Issue 4 Corsair 8 Stuff 9 Refusal 10 Downcast 11 Anon 13 Circumspect 17 Rose 18 Psychics 21 Jugular 22 Metro 23 Notable 24 Nerve
DOWN: 1 Inside 2 Squaw 3 Efficacy 4 Christmas tree 5 Raft 6 Arsenic 7 Relent 12 Spaceman 14 Insight 15 Trojan 16 Ashore 19 Inter 19 Flab

moreover ... Miles Kington

Exclusive – complete text of last night's BBC Christmas appeal! Scene: A TV studio. Close-up of Terry Wogan.

Wogan: Hello there, and consider yourself welcome back to "The BBC In Need", the programme that aims to raise the missing £7 million which we need just to keep the old place going. And I've just heard that the total you've pledged has gone up again! *Drunken cheers off-screen.* Thank you, gentlemen of the orchestra. And I'm going to ask Lumley to read out the new total.

Lumley: The new total is £457, Wogan.

Wogan: And that leaves a little over £6 million to get! Now! here's a pledge from a viewer in Yorkshire who promises £1 million to see a programme without Terry Wogan on it.

Could this be a certain R. Harty, I ask myself? Anyway, your wish is granted.

Wogan rises and leaves the screen. He is replaced by Terry Hutch, Producer-General of the BBC.

Hutch: I don't think we actually made *The Thorn Birds* ourselves, but you get the idea. And to continue this work we need your money. Here's Professor Ivor Crewe with the swingometer to show you just where all the money goes.

Crewe: If the needle creeps past the £1 million, that means we have saved *Forty Minutes*. If not, it means a new programme called *Seven Minutes*. And we've just heard that a viewer in London has pledged half a million if the Producer-General takes all his clothes off!

Hutch: You obviously still don't quite the idea. *Drunken cries of "Get 'Em Off!"* Now let's go round the regions to see if there any still left.

Cut to a studio labelled Radio Mid-West. A man dressed as a giraffe is sitting on a sofa. He speaks indistinctly.

Giraffe: Kerfuffle kerfuffle here at Radio kerfuffle magnificent effort kerfuffle no less than £7,000!

Hutch: That's great. And if you can get that £7,000 on a motorbike for Wood Lane at once, it will solve a lot of problems – we're running out of Beaujolais

Lumley: And we've just had a pledge from a viewer in Basildon to donate another £10 if I take my wig off. *She removes her wig to reveal another wig.*

Wogan: Still a few wigs to go, believe me, gents. Now I have with me a fabulous writer Spike Milligan, who many think should be the next Poet Laureate. Have you in fact written a poem for tonight, O Spike?

Milligan: Not exactly, but I thought I'd make one up as I went along. "I sent my money in a sack. Along to dear Auntie, Who gave one half to Wogan T., and half to Russell Harty."

Wogan: Ouch. And the total now is . . .?

Lumley: £2,345,609, plus £50 if Robin Day agrees to take all his bow tie off.

Day: Certainly, if you call me Sir Robin.

Hutch: And we've just heard that "Sergeant Bilko" has been sold to Afghanistan Television for a hundred roubles an episode!

Cut to Clive James.

James: Sir Robin Day couldn't take his bow-tie off, actually, as it contained a large microphone, and Robin Day without a microphone is like Esther Rantzen without molars. *Screams of laughter.* Here's another extract from "The BBC In Need", showing that if Britain has the best telly in the world, it also has the worst.

Cut to a group of Japanese, screaming in agony and humiliation as they are forced to watch "That's Life".

Hutch: So it's almost time to leave "The BBC In Need", but not before a message from a viewer in the North who wants to know if, for £100, we will stop repeating programmes. Well, I'm sorry, but we really can't afford to – in fact, as we haven't quite raised the money we need, we shall be repeating this programme again tomorrow night.

Shot of Wogan's feet. Shot of Lumley's smile. Shot of bow-tie on the floor. Shot of little white dot vanishing in middle of screen. Shot of darkness.

BODY QUIZ ANSWERS

Here are the answers to Monday's Body Quiz.

The full quotation is: "In the spider web of facts many a truth is strangled." Paul Eldridge from his book *Horns of Glass*.

The answer to the question is: "Emperor Menelik II. The dynamic and resourceful creator of modern Ethiopia was in the habit of nibbling a few pages of the Bible whenever he became ill. In December 1913, while recovering from a stroke, he ate the entire Book of Kings and died."

Our improbable literary genius

Richard Holmes on Bozzy's ascent to the heights of Parnassus

JAMES BOSWELL: THE LATER YEARS 1769-1795
By Frank Brady
Heinemann, £20

Boswell one said that of all human arts he valued *distilling* the most. He was talking of booze, of course, like a true Scotch-man; but the dictum might apply equally to biography. Forty years ago, almost everything essential to be said about Dr Johnson's dear Bozzy could be *summed up*, or *boiled down*, by Peter Quennell in a masterly short study of precisely 65 pages. (It appears in *Four Portraits* – the other three were Gibbon, Sterne, and John Wilkes.)

Boswell's inordinate relish for life ("he teetered on the verge of complete sanity" said Wyndham Lewis), his hard drinking and easy whoring, his black hypochondria (depression or *black dog*), *his exhibitionism* ("glossy with conceit like some young and well-groomed animal"), his relentless courting of celebrities like Rousseau, Voltaire, Hume and the Corsican General Paoli, his humiliating struggels with his father Lord Auchinleck, *his* manic shuttlings between Edinburgh and London (the low and high tides of human existence), and his *lifelong* harvest of Johnson's friendship – all these things were brilliantly captured and displayed in Quennell's small, liqueur-like *digestif*.

Forty years on, and a kind of controlled explosion has taken place in the brewing of James Boswell's life-saga. Masterminded by Professor Frederick A. Pottle at Yale, ten fat volumes of Boswell's Private Papers have been made public from the famous "ebony cabinet of Auchinleck" (including the lubricious and entertaining *London Journal* which became an international best-seller in 1950). Now comes the second substantial volume of Boswell's "official" Life, written by Pottle's protégé Professor Frank Brady. Volume one, *The Earlier Years 1740-1769*, published by Pottle in 1965 is currently re-issued, and together they form a biography of over twelve-hundred pages. How has Bozzy stood up to this apotheosis, or elephantiasis? Has his *specific gravity* increased, or been diluted?

Professor Brady's materials are superb. Though we miss Boswell in *his first, fine*, careless rapture (he is 29 at the outset, married, and incongrously making his way at the Scottish Bar as "Corsica Boswell"), we catch up with him at many of the intoxicating highlights of his checkered career (though no tartan could cover the pattern). There is his tour to the Hebrides with Johnson; his affair with the dangerous Mrs Rudd; his election to the Club; his characteristic defence of the sheep-stealer John Reid (Boswell gets drunk with the jury that condemns his client, and then plots a hare-brained scheme to rescue him from the gallows), and above all there is the actual writing of the great *Life of Johnson* which took most of six years: "there will be many foolish lives first," King George encouraged him, "do you make the best." Royal advice for all biographers.

Throughout, there is the irrepressible Boswell of the *Journals*. He solemnly pledges sobriety under "a venerable Devonshire yew tree" – not more than six glasses of wine at a time. He fantasizes to friends about his coming greatness: "Monsier, il ne me manque que la base. Je suis déjà la statue". He tangles himself in increasingly ludicrous sexual escapades, told like notes for a One Act play: "Tedious delay waiting for the door to open. Man in closet. Wonderful presence of mind: bade him to *be to it*. Man off. Going, but allured back. *Twice.*" (Something of Mr Jingle there?)



Yet it has to be said that Brady's powers as a biographer (rather than those as a diligent scholar) are insufficient to orchestrate these vast materials either dramatically or psychologically. His book is often diffuse in texture, repetitive, and episodic. Boswell is always getting out of hand. "It is the biographer's despair," Brady writes in a revealing aside, "that Boswell's fluctuations in mood so faithfully resemble those found in many other lives". But of course it is precisely this that should be made the ground for the biographer's triumph. Boswell is indeed a kind of Everyman, and here lies the root of his literary genius.

Instead the character-analysis is fretfully transatlantic: "Marriage had focused his goals", we are told at one point; and at another we are advised earnestly that "Anyone, of course, can confer a moral mark on Boswell, but it seems more useful to consider what parts alcohol and sex played in his psychic economy." Och, dear.

Brady is always more at home commenting on a text, rather than re-creating the experience that originally produced it: better at the *Tour* than the tour. Moreover the central elegiac theme that runs so strongly through Boswell's later years – not merely discussions of death, fame, immortality, and vanity (those great perennials), but the actual deaths of Hume (1776), his father (1782), Dr Johnson (1784), and his beloved and ill-treated wife Margaret (1789) – these are not properly linked to the titanic, life-giving act of creation that crowns Boswell's career. We wonder, in short, how batty, lovable Boswell really did become the author of a moral epic, comparable to *Paradise Lost*, or *The Prelude* (which is what I believe the *Life of Johnson* is).

Nonetheless, it is very difficult to give final judgement against the enterprise. Brady's book provides great, if fluctuating pleasures; it is "a fine hogshead" of learning; it is both touching and fruitily funny (more so perhaps that Prof. Pottle's volume I); amateurs of Augustan London will adore it; and students of both Life and Literature will admire the authoritative Chapter 17 (really a detached essay) on Boswell's place in the history of biography.

And certainly James Boswell is not diminished by this mighty collective effort by the learned doctors of Yale: he has become, in fact, a sort of closet Dickens of the eighteenth century. But what we need now, more than anything, to enshine his "preferment on Parnassus" is surely a good, single-volume selection from the *Journals*, to join the *Tour* and the *Life*. That would be a true alembic, mon.

Juan in Scotland: the writer as pro

Allan Massie

ERIC LINKLATER
By Michael Parnell
John Murray, £16

The Scott Monument in Princes Street stands over Waverley, a railway station named after a novel; Compton Mackenzie and Eric Linklater used to figure in advertisements for a brand of whisky (Black-and-White, I think; it isn't mentioned in this biography). These may seem curious ways of honouring writers, but they are at least a form of recognition. Certainly Eric Linklater was for most of his life one of the better known figures in Scotland. Yet he was never given quite the degree of serious professional regard he thought he deserved. As his younger son Andro Linklater writes in a foreword to this very welcome biography, "When I was a child in the 1950s, my father's reputation as a writer had passed its peak . . . his great fame had come in the 1930s and 1940s with a succession of best-selling novels beginning with *Juan in America* and ending with *Private Angelo*." Thereafter his stock slumped. It became quite usual to find a Linklater novel perfunctorily dealt with by reviewers at the tail of a batch of fiction.

Yet in many ways the novels he wrote in the Fifties and early Sixties represent the peak of his achievement. They are more controlled than his earlier fiction. Some of the froth has evaporated. The books are closer to real, frequently grim, experience. Wit is not absent – there are few wittier novels than *Position at Noon* (1958) and *The Merry Muse* (1959), of which Evelyn Waugh wrote: "what a treat it has been. I think it your best novel, ingenious, admirably constructed and written, strong and funny. What boobies most of the reviewers are." But for all that, in these later novels, "the granite", as Graham Greene said of Stevenson, "was coming through".

Linklater accounted for the decline in his popularity and the unwillingness of reviewers to take him seriously by his own disinclination to repeat earlier successes and by the variety of his subject-matter and variation of style he employed. Perhaps he insisted too much on this; there is a unity of tone in his work, just as there is in Waugh's. It comes through even when he pares down his vocabulary as in *The Men of Ness* or speaks through a defeated *timid* persona as in *Roll of Honour*.

Perhaps his insistence that he was essentially a craftsman did him no good. It has been unfortunately the case in the last 30 years or so that novels which can be taught, that is to say, novels which provide *material* for discussion, have been more highly valued, especially by the academic critics who play such a part in the forming of reputations, than novels like Linklater's which are lucid, all of a piece, and finely shaped. Mr Parnell's sensible examination of the novels may help to revive interest.

Another factor in the decline *of his* reputation emerges strongly. Linklater was unfashionable in his admirations: his heroes included soldiers like Wavell, Alexander and Bernard Fergusson (Lord Ballantrae). Though he had himself served in the trenches (and been wounded) in the First World War, and though he knew the waste and cruelty of war, he never quite lost a romantic 1914 response to it: war brought out the qualities he revered – courage, gallantry, humour and the capacity for friendship. Here again a comparison with Waugh can be usefully made; neither was in tune with Hooper's world.

On his own admission also, he was "subject to a weakness which has betrayed my fellow-countrymen. I have not alway been able to find, in my writing, a total satisfaction for my natural appetites . . ." This has contributed to his devaluation; unjustly. It is, as he suggests, a Scots characteristic, true of Scott, Stevenson, Byron, Norman Douglas as well as Linklater. But I am not sure that it isn't better for the novelist to be a man of the world and a man of affairs than to shut himself up in his ivory tower. It needn't show lack of respect for his art. It didn't in Linklater's case: he was a writer through and through.

Mr Parnell's treatment of the books is thorough, fair, and frequently enlightening. Though he is a Senior Lecturer in English he eschews barbarous jargon. The result recalls the sympathetic and sensible way in which Christopher Sykes dealt with Waugh's fiction in his biography.

The name of Waugh keeps breaking into this review, and that is fair enough. They were friends; they took a very similar view of writing; they were even similar in character. Both liked to play the crusty and irascible colonel, building up a character part that served as a carapace to conceal insecurity and a nature that could easily be hurt. In both it became apparently natural. Both alternated between high spirits and depression. Both drank heavily, but not destructively. Both led a vagrant youth, married a much younger wife and settled in the country. Both became soldiers rather than bureaucrats in war.

The chief merit of Mr Parnell's biography, apart from the mass of information he has given us, is that it brings the man Linklater to life. His selection of quotation is judicious and his judgement generous. It is a good biography because he likes and admires his subject without being blind to his faults. He has had, it is clear, full and unselfish co-operation from Marjorie Linklater and her children. He gives a good picture too of literary life before the advent of the mass-media changed everything. I could have done with more details about sales and money. Even so, it is extraordinary to reflect today that Rupert Hart-Davis printed 20,000 copies of a collection of short stories, *Sealskin Trousers*, and was a bit disappointed to sell only 16,000 *in four years*.

Two amusing old fogeys of the brisk New Right

Brian Martin

THE LONE CONFORMIST
By Roy Kerridge
Chatto & Windus

THE MISSING WILL
By Michael Wharton
Chatto & Windus, £10.95

These two autobiographies make a pleasant change. Their concerns are neither the New Left, nor feminism; they are conversely about the New Right, even though Michael Wharton *has* been knocking about for a good few years. Both authors are *Daily Telegraph* writers, and both, what might be called, radical conservatives. They are certainly unorthodox. Kerridge attributes his "romantic conservatism" to the "idealism of Arthur Mee and Russian folk tales", and after his emergence from his well-meaning Communist family which forbade him to love God, Queen and Country, as a reaction Peter Simple's column *Way of the World* in the *Daily Telegraph* "became a never-failing source of comfort, reassurance and strength".

Michael Wharton, born Nathan, is Peter Simple, and describes himself as a "Tory anarchist", a label proved by any quick glance at his column. He has always been a conservationist, an environmentalist, an early "Friend of the Earth", a "Green" before the Greens existed, his innate conservatism nurtured by sleeping in a storeroom in Oxford amid piles of paperback copies of Gollancz Left Book Club publications: his dreaming mind was "reinforced and confirmed forever" in his strongly right-wing views.

As you might expect from reading their contributions to the *Spectator* and the *Daily Telegraph*, they write wittily and incisively, both analysing and satirizing contemporary society; and since Wharton at 71 is 32 years old than Kerridge, Wharton looks farther back in time for the cause of society's decline. His experience as an artillery officer at the end of the War, adds weight of evidence against the Army Educational Corps, the military wing of socialism, which he saw "beginning the work of indoctrination among the forces which was to help, later on, to secure a landslide victory for the Labour Party and the sensational ousting of Winston Churchill".

Neither author has any truck with trendies. Kerridge has certainly been around and seen some – as a lavatory attendant during the summer of Seventy-seven in a Sussex seaside town, as the recipient of welfare at a Government Rehabilitation Centre, as an inmate of the old Charing Cross Hospital, a hostel for down-and-outs, and, for the hell of it, as a devotee on appro. of the Divine Light Mission. At the Hare Krishna Soho temple he avoided being palmed off with some disciple's rock record: he puts his refreshingly anti-trendy view thus, "I think I got off lightly, as not having a rock record is a treat in itself". Kerridge is funny and compassionate.

For Wharton, keenly appreciative of the ridiculous, writing has always been a chore. His title, *The Missing Will*, is ambiguous, alluding to his mother's suspicion of an inheritance never passed on, and to his school report's diagnosis of his character, "passive and lacking in initiative". Although he belied the latter in his love-affairs, he did drift lethargically from one job to another. When it was finally suggested that he should collaborate with the originator of the Peter Simple column, it took Constantine FitzGibbons' wife to point out that he was actually being offered a permanent position. He accepted, and is still going strong in the Peter Simple chair 28 year later.

Both books are highly entertaining and constantly amusing. Kerridge, a middle-aged fogey, and Wharton, a fogey proper, have much in common with today's fashionable "young fogeys", but their writing is less severe and more engagingly charming.

Whatever happened to Jane?

HISTORICALS

Philippa Toomey

JANE AUSTEN IN AUSTRALIA
By Barbara Ker Wilson
Secker & Warburg, £8.95

MANSFIELD REVISITED
By Joan Aiken
Gollancz, £7.95

Jane Austen led a quiet life in the country, the high points being visits to Bath – or so we have been led to believe. Barbara Ker Wilson's engaging fantasy is based on a few solid facts and real people. In 1799 Jane Austen's aunt, Mrs Jane Leigh Perrot, was arrested for shoplifting in Bath, and stood trial for what was then an extremely serious offence, meriting a sentence of transportation to the penal colony in Australia.

Mrs Leigh Perrot was aquitted. But what, suggests the author, if her husband, having resolved to accompany her, were she to be found guilty, decided to visit this strange and new foreign land, taking with them their niece Jane, who was suffering from the ending of an unhappy love affair?

We do know, from hints, that *Jane Austen fell in love* with someone who appeared to be entiely suitable, but he died. Here we have the story of her romance, the object of her affections being a clergyman in the Tilney rather than the Collins tradition.

The lengthy and dangerous voyage, the savage and uncomfortable society, the rawness of the new town of Sydney, the dreadful climate and the possibility of a convict rising – all are admirably contrasted with the amiable (and real) people who lived there, and who might have made the Leigh Perrots welcome.

Fanny Price was, most unaccountably, Jane Austen's favourite heroine. Joan Aiken, in *Mansfield Revisited*, has sensibly bundled the newly married Edmund and Fanny off to the West Indies to look after the family estates (Sir Thomas Bertram having died). We are left with Fanny's sister Susan, making a much better job of coping with Lady Bertram, and dispensing a great deal more cheerfulness.

If there was almost too much action for Jane Austen in Australia, Joan Aiken has the atmosphere at Mansfield exactly right. Almost nothing *does* happen in Austen novels, there is a ball, a picnic, love, and marriage. The language has the right echoes and overtones, and the whole is delightful. Whatever happened to those nice young people in *Northanger Abbey*?

● Marguerite Blakeney (wife of Sir Percy, alias The Scarlet Pimpernel) tells her own story in **Daughter of the Revolution** by **C. Guy Clayton** *(Macdonald, £8.95)*, a memoir setting the record straight.

Rapes, deaths, duels, triumphs on the stage, undercover work for Talleyrand (one of her many lovers), dramatic escapes end in a not very enthusiastic dwindling into the wife of Sir Percy.

How to be hilarious against all the odds

Anthony Masters

A SHY PERSON'S GUIDE TO LIFE
By Michael Bentine
Granada, £6.95

SO MUCH LOVE
By Beryl Reid
Hutchinson, £8.95

Despite its Pythonesque title, Michael Bentine's new book is dead serious. It means what it says, and non-bashful readers who pick it up, out of love for Bentine or sheer curiosity, are liable to feel they are eavesdropping on a very private conversation: a painfully shy person being advised by a kindly uncle who has conquered those terrors himself.

Its frankness is sometimes embarrassing but also a great *act of courage; and it will leave* most spectators sadder and wiser. Bentine starts with his own grandfather, a vice-president of Peru, who could not bring himself to go to the lavatory in mid-debate and finally killed himself with kidney cancer. Bentine's own anti-stammer strategy, described in helpful detail, is also a touching demonstration of what some people have to go through.

He is nothing if not practical; not content with directions for psyching you up for an interview or a date, he endearingly lists chatting-up gambits of the old-fashioned variety. But there are times when the subject grows under his hands into something much larger: a battle not merely against shyness but against destructive self-doubt and negativeness of every kind. Hypersensitivity, he writes somewhere, never goes away; the hypersensitive just have to learn not to be crippled by it and to use its advantages to become specially compassionate people, or artists, or (naturally) comedians.

Beryl Reid's autobiography, too, has all the marks of her individual tone of voice and, few are funnier than her matter-of-fact precis of the outrageous events in *Entertaining Mr Sloane*, almost as though standing in a corner-shop reporting the week's gossip. No wonder she took to Mrs Candour like a duck to water. And periodically the cloying succession of compliments every time a fellow-actress or actor is mentioned (why must they do this?) is halted for a barely perceptible back-hander.

Very little checks her ebullience – not the disappointments of her private life (treated with firm brevity), certainly not audience outrage during the pre-London tour of *Sister George*, least of all her early ordeals in provincial variety: playing Bo-Peep with live sheep in Swindon, taking off her greasepaint with Trex, or having her knickers eaten by rats at the Palace, Attercliff.

Any doubts about the cat in Langley that acted as a sheep-dog or the drunken leading lady singing *Ave Maria* in Blackpool are stilled by the thought that odd things probably happen naturally to someone with such a sense of the ludicrous. Her account of getting lost backstage at the National and suddenly arriving on stage in *Tamburlaine* ("a lot of people in gold, and I didn't recognize any of them") is classic.

My one big complaint is that there is no index: I can remember so many good things I cannot now find. But apart from odd details like confusing Joseph's role in *The School for Scandal* and captioning as the Duke of York's Theatre what is plainly the St Martin's, the editing is mercifully more alert than in Michael White's new memoirs. And these cover a wider range than most. How many people suspected that Marlene with her "eer-rings" or Monica in *Educating Archie* would adapt till she is now mainly thought of as a serious comedienne? Or that a dyslexic girl would become as much of a well-loved household name as a half-Peruvian boy with a stammer?

The season for cold turkey

FICTION

John Nicholson

EDISTO
By Padgett Powell
Secker & Warburg, £7.95

FIVE REHEARSALS
By Susanna Johnston
Chatto & Windus, £8.95

MARGE
By Kitty Fitzgerald
Sheba, £6.95, paperback £3.75

Reflecting on the significance of Christmas, a wise man once remarked that it was a fine time for poultry farmers. In literature as in life, it seems, since the central figures in this week's fictional offerings are all into cold turkey. So go easy on the brandy butter, and ponder for a while on the unseasonal subject of our addictions and obsessions.

The fix in Pagett Hall's delightful first novel is that Good Ole Boy Al K. Hall. Most of the characters relaxing in Dresser's Rexall, popular watering-hole in downtown Bluffton, surely ought to be somewhere else, doing something more creative than sinking their beers and their bourbon. Take pumpman Clyde, for example: has he really got nothing better to do than struggle out of the harness of his wooden leg in an attempt to get a reaction of Somons Manigault? And what about Simons? Shouldn's he be down the road at Bluffton Elementary? What's he doing in a bar anyway? The kid's only twelve, for Chrissake!

It takes a lot to impress Simons ("Pronounce it Simmons. I'm a rare one-m Simons n), or so it seems to the world. We know better, because his is the first-person voice which talks us through this jaunty saga about growing up in the seedy South. Certainly the boy's irregular rearing in a beach-hut ought to provide him with plenty of colourful material if he ever realizes his ambition to become a writer. It's an aspiration fuelled by his mother, known to all and sundry as The Duchess, on account of her imperious manner when in her cups, but discouraged by his father (The Progenitor to his precocious offspring), who would be happier to see his son carrying a baseball bat.

Edistò is a funny book. Not rib-tickling, but consistently droll. Mr Powell has been touched by Twain and Runyn. But he's an original, too, nowhere more so than in the extraordinary patois.

Drink pales into insignificance as a demon when set alongside the little green devils devouring the heroines created by Susanna Johnston and Kitty Fitzgerald. Miss Johnston's Vanessa needs every one of the five rehearsals of the book's title before she can break her sexual infatuation with an appalling film director, while Miss Fitzgerald's eponymous Marge simply can't stop an obsessive interest in her neighbour from reaching its sickening conclusion. Neither book is particularly well-written or constructed. Both however throw some light on an emotion which does not recognize a season of goodwill.

Iain Elliot

THE BURDEN
By Vladimir Rybakov
Hutchinson, £8.95

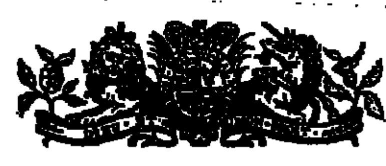
This is a brutal book: but one that could help the reader "understand the Russians". The novel is based on Vladimir Rybakov's grim personal experience of military service in the freezing wastes of the Ussuri region at the height of the Sino-Soviet conflict. The author like his central character, Junior Sergeant Maltsev, was born in France of Russian parents who returned to the USSR after the war with their two young sons. The reality did not match their dreams.

For Maltsev, expelled from university for his dissident views, France is a distant vision of freedom to which he is determined to return. The blend of discipline, indoctrination, and genuine patriotism makes them ready to fight when ordered. The tough and cynical Maltsev argues with the poetry-reading idealist Svezhnev, who condemns Maltsev for wanting to emigrate, abandoning the fight for a democratic Russia.

This debate continues spasmodically amid scenes of bloodshed, fornication, tragedy, and comedy. Invading Chinese are slaughtered by a rocket strike. Soviet soldiers are murdered by marauding Chinese or die in pointless accidents. Teenage recruits escape from the harsh military routine in friendly comradeship.

Maltsev is sickened by it all. The "burden" is the despotism which rules the Soviet block; which produces a tyrannical officer "fouling up the morning like a dead mouse in a loaf of bread"; which makes Maltsev himself treat his men cruelly and in the end betray his friend Svezhnev.

This powerful book, *smoothly* translated, does not end Maltsev's story. Rybakov emigrated in 1976 and is now a journalist in Paris writing for emigre Russian publications. A sequel, bringing Maltsev to France, has already appeared in Russian, and Rybakov doubtless found material for further episodes when interviewing Soviet defectors in Afghanistan. The burden is no lighter.



JAPAN DIARY

David Watts

Krisumasu for all

Tokyo

Christmas is one of Japan's more successful imports. Almost devoid of religious meaning except for the tiny Christian minority of less than 1 per cent of the 120 million people, it's none the less a festival that neither Scrooge nor the Archbishop of Canterbury could seriously quarrel with. Scrooge would have been delighted by the enormous amounts of money that are made and no true Christian could object to the real joy that Krisumasu creates, whether or not its full religious import is understood by the millions of children who are as familiar with Santa as those in Europe and the United States.

Christmas really "arrived" in Japan in a spontaneous outburst of merrymaking in the Ginza, Tokyo's entertainment area, on Christmas Eve of 1955. That was the year that people had something special to celebrate, even though it had nothing to do with Bethlehem. The government had just issued a white paper decreeing that the wartime era of shortages and starvation was over. Japan was officially back on its feet.

Family flavour

One reason for the growing popularity of Christmas is that it fits in neatly with a purely home-grown season of celebration: year-end office parties called bonenkai. Bonenkai literally translates as "forget-the-year party," and most of the male participants set out to do exactly that, to the horror and fascination of their delicate and demure secretaries.

Lately, though, Christmas has taken on more of a family flavour. The transition took place as fathers heading towards their traditional bonenkai pleasures, would stop and buy a Christmas cake. This year it is estimated that bakeries have produced something like five million Christmas cakes along with countless Christmas ice-creams and, for some reason, boxes of fried chicken which are heavily promoted on television to the jingle of bells.

● It had to happen. Japan this year enjoyed its own officially designated Santaland. The first outside Santa's Northern European homeland, it is in the small town of Hiroo on the northern island of Hokkaido. Santa-San no doubt felt at home there. Hokkaido is on the same latitude as Siberia and gets a fair share of snow.

Having a ball

Last night the ladies and gentlemen of the British embassy were nursing their bruises after their customary Boxing Day soccer games. There are separate games for both sexes and a good time is generally had by all. The whole thing serves as a warm-up for a much more serious five-a-side contest on New Year's Day.

This year there will be three embassy teams, two teams from the Hongkong and Shanghai and Barclays banks and a sixth team rather impolitely called a "mishmash", but which none the less usually turns in a pretty good performance.

Sloping off

As well as marking the beginning of the year-end holiday season, Christmas also marks the start of the skiing season. This year its advent has been attended by Shinto and Buddhist ceremonies beseeching the gods to send snow in time for the climax of the holidays over new year, when Japan virtually closes down. After weeks of snow-free slopes their prayers have been answered. Heavy snow was falling in the Japan Alps and in the resort areas along the Sea of Japan by Christmas Eve.

Choral practice

Geisha girls are getting into the European spirit of things by joining in a performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. They have joined a chorus of about 5,000 which will perform the work – Japan's favourite piece of western music – to mark the opening of a new arena for the national sport, sumo wrestling, next year. Because they work in their clubs in the evening, where a few hours of relaxation can cost a corporation president anything from £300 up, the geisha must practice in the afternoons. Few can read music, let alone speak German, so it's a mammoth task memorizing the whole thing. Still, it gives them a new party piece to perform for their customers.

Box and box

The Dickensian image of Christmas is always good for British exports, from fabulously-priced boxed bottles of Scotch to choice teas and chocolate which sell for up to three times the British price. But it has been a good season for British television works as well. Recent weeks have seen the showing on prime time of *A Voyage Round My Father*, from John Mortimer's autobiographical work of the same name, and *A Christmas Carol* starring Albert Finney and Dame Edith Evans.

The week before Christmas Nagisa Oshima's superb film, *Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence*, set in a Japanese prisoner of war camp in Java in 1942 and starring David Bowie, was shown on television, coming closer to the message of Christmas than a dozen sermons. One would like to think that was why it was scheduled. Most likely it was because it had that magic word in the title.

Will Rajiv ravage the pundits?

With first results of the Indian election due tomorrow, David Butler considers the chances of a landslide for Mr Clean

New Delhi

Last Monday, for the first time in a life of election-watching, I saw votes being stolen, crudely and brutally. A sophisticated Delhi journalist had taken me 40 miles north to the Baghpat constituency of Charan Singh, India's prime minister for a brief period in 1979. We visited the five polling stations at random, and in four the fraud was blatant.

In one a Charan Singh supporter was marking the ballot papers of the illiterate villagers. In a second the local headman, from the locally dominant Jat caste, sat intimidatingly by the booth and inspected the ballot papers of the overawed Harijans.

In a third we learnt that the Harijans had been told not to come: "Others would vote for them." In a fourth there were, allegedly, poll watchers for the other parties but on investigation all had switched to Charan Singh. The police and the polling officials did nothing.

Vote-stealing – like the oppression of the Harijans – is a disagreeable sight. Yet what we saw was not typical and, indeed, some of the Baghpat districts are to vote again following protests. I met many journalists who had scoured Delhi and its surroundings in search of a polling-day story without finding anything but free and open voting. And their experience is certainly far more representative than mine.

India is the largest democracy in the world. And it is a country that seems imbued with a universal zest for politics. Even when an election is not in progress half the stories on the front pages of the Delhi newspapers are about party splits, cabinet crises, nomination rows and state elections. Politics, like cricket, is a major spectator sport.

People who write premature obituaries for democracy in India fail to realize how difficult it would be to eradicate their enthusiasm for voting, the demand to express a popular verdict. The zeal can be carried to excess, as I saw so vividly on Monday. But all over India patient queues waited outside the polling stations. Tomorrow votes will be counted, for the most part, without controversy.

It is pretty clear that those votes will confirm the leadership of a 42-year-old airline pilot whose youth, novelty and remarkable dynastic heritage have catapulted him to an unassailable position. Rajiv Gandhi has everything going for him. There is sympathy for his mother's death, and appreciation of his "Mr Clean" image in a society where political corruption is endemic. There is a hopeful belief in a new start and in his pursuit of efficiency.

Rajiv represents both continuity and change. In a fissiparous country he seems to stand for the unity of India, combining all the virtues of the old regime with none of its vices. He also draws in a negative vote as the lesser evil. The opposition is a tired group of discredited politicians, lacking any clear issue or alternative ideology. Congress (I) may be equally tarnished but he personally seems uncontaminated. His all-Indian appeal reaches out even in this diverse, illiterate population.

Opinion polls have offered conflicting evidence about the outcome. But the largest – and the only one to offer India-wide figures – suggests that Congress (I) will get 53 per cent of the national vote and secure 366 of the 510 seats at stake this week.

Since the Congress Party has never before touched 50 per cent, not even in its heyday in the 1950s, or won more than 357 seats, this prediction excites incredulity among sophisticated political observers. After all, before her death Mrs Gandhi looked in serious danger of defeat. But the poll prediction could end up being an understatement for in the 20 days since the poll was taken the tide, it is generally agreed, has continued to flow Rajiv's way.

There are those who reckon however, that any Indian opinion will exaggerate support for those in power by 5 to 10 per cent, because of timidity or deference.

Political commentators have been shy of predicting landslides, but the first-past-the-post system produces them all the time. Consider 1906, 1931, 1945 or 1983 in Britain: 1958 or 1984 in Canada, 1966 or 1975 in Australia. Consider indeed 1977 and 1980 in India. No one anticipated the magnitude of the majorities that were achieved.

It is indeed clear that Rajiv Gandhi's triumph will not be complete. In West Bengal the very conservative Communist Party which rules the state will also keep most, if not all, of its Lok Sabha seats. In Andra Pradesh the eccentric film-star premier, N.T. Rama Rao, will ensure the election of a number of his Telegu-speaking followers. In a scattering of very personal contests, independents and others will defy the Congress sweep. It was hard to imagine the voters of Baghpat reacting to the issues discussed in sophisticated Delhi. In the villages that we visited, caste and custom must surely prevail over national trends.

Tomorrow evening it will not be as easy as in Britain to guess the final outcome from the first result. But when a landslide is in progress, it does not take long to hear the thunder. We shall soon know if the polls have come a cropper, as in Truman's America or Heath's Britain, or if Rajiv Gandhi has been crowned as the third and most triumphant in his line.

There has been definite evidence in the past few months of a desire to India to remain India. When asked in the opinion poll about the key issues, 47 per cent put the unity of India first; 30 per cent chose inflation and 18 per cent corruption. A mere 5 per cent put regional autonomy first.

Every group seemed to react to issues in fairly equal proportions; urban and rural, Hindu and Moslem, men and women. Moreover, Congress (I) draws its support remarkably equally from all groups. Despite its ageing, disintegrating organization, the party is still the most powerful and ubiquitous force in India and somehow retains its popular appeal. With its new leader it seems to have revived.

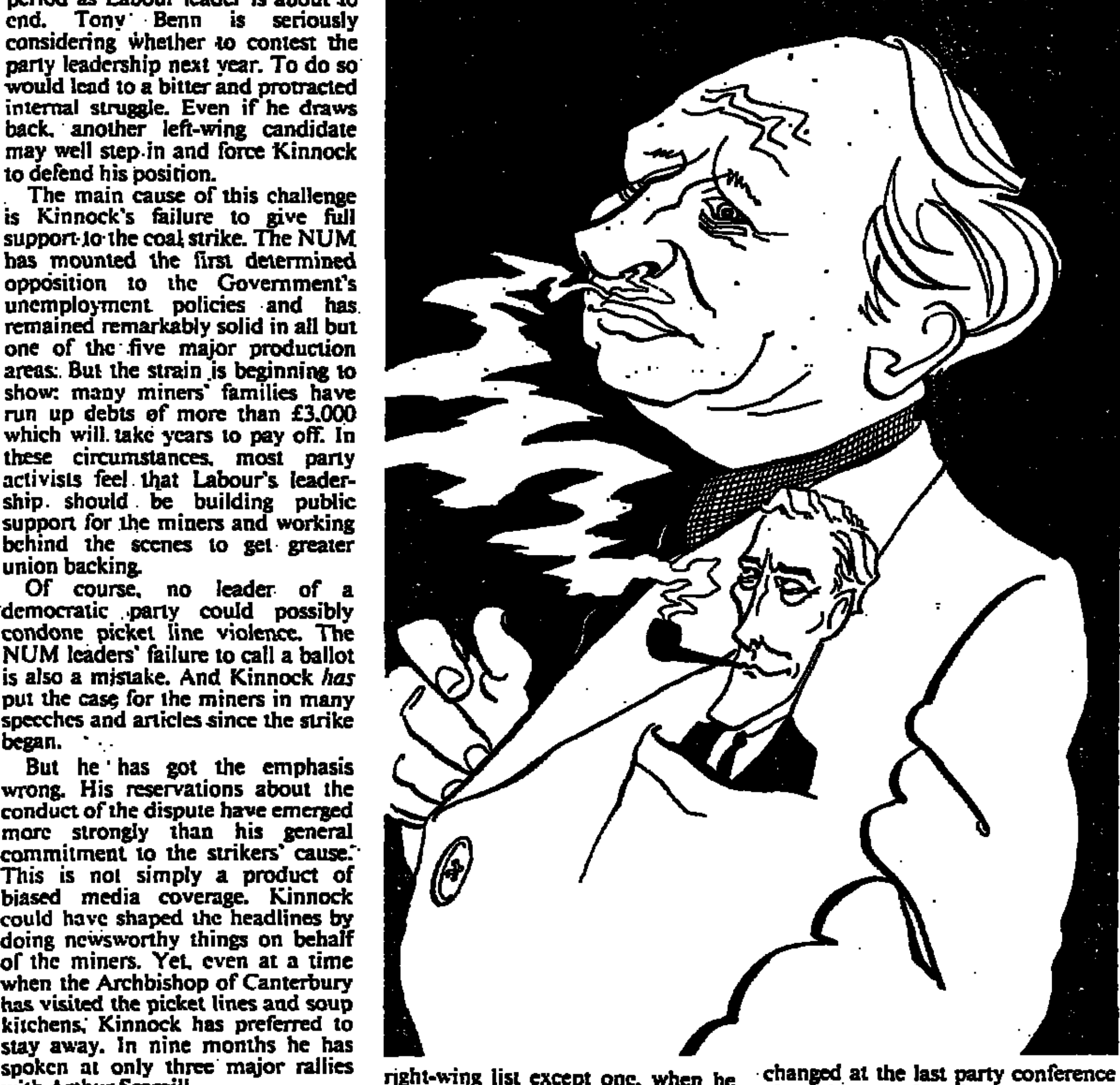
People are swinging behind him hopefully, dreaming that he can liberate the country from its permeating corruption and muddle.

India has long been a by-word for bureaucracy in its worst sense, for meaningless form-filling and perpetual buck-passing. The technocratic Rajiv is visibly impatient with his country's self-inflicted handicap. If he wins by a landslide, he will be his own man, not just his mother's protégé and inheritor. But whether he or his advisers have the perceptiveness, or the power, to change deeply engrained national habits must remain an open question.

The author is a Fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.

James Curran on the left's view of the Labour leader's new year

Kinnock: a threat to himself



Neil Kinnock's honeymoon period as Labour leader is about to end. Tony Benn is seriously considering whether to contest the party leadership next year. To do so would lead to a bitter and protracted internal struggle. Even if he draws back, another left-wing candidate may well step in and force Kinnock to defend his position.

The main cause of this challenge is Kinnock's failure to give full support to the coal strike. The NUM has mounted the first determined opposition to the Government's unemployment policies and has remained remarkably solid in all but one of the five major production areas. But the strain is beginning to show: many miners' families have run up debts of more than £3,000 which will take years to pay off. In these circumstances, most party activists feel that Labour's leadership should be building public support for the miners and working behind the scenes to get greater union backing.

Of course, no leader of a democratic party could possibly condone picket line violence. The NUM leaders' failure to call a ballot is also a mistake. And Kinnock *has* put the case for the miners in many speeches and articles since the strike began.

But he has got the emphasis wrong. His reservations about the conduct of the dispute have emerged more strongly than his general commitment to the strikers' cause. This is not simply a product of biased media coverage. Kinnock could have shaped the headlines by doing newsworthy things on behalf of the miners. Yet, even at a time when the Archbishop of Canterbury has visited the picket lines and soup kitchens, Kinnock has preferred to stay away. In nine months he has spoken at only three major rallies with Arthur Scargill.

This cautious support has not won him public plaudits either. The latest MORI poll shows that his personal rating is significantly lower than support for his party. Indeed, approval for his performance as leader (32 per cent) is almost exactly on a par with support for the miners (31 per cent). His anxiety to court the middle ground of public opinion, going in this instance against all his instincts as a miner's son, has fuelled resentment within the party and weakened the miners' position with nothing to show for it.

Kinnock has also stored up trouble for himself by over-identifying with Labour's right wing. On every contentious issue since his election as leader he has voted with the right-wing faction on the national executive. In the autumn clear-out of key NEC committees, he voted for all the candidates on the right-wing list except one, when he abstained.

Kinnock's shift to the right has brought peace and tranquillity in the short term. He has revived an old formula for running the Labour Party which has worked successfully in the past, aligning all the competing power centres within the party on a centre-right axis and using trade union block votes to bring the NEC and party conference into line with the right-dominated Parliamentary Labour Party.

But there are signs that this old formula will no longer work. Already, centrist trade unionists have broken rank more than once, leaving Kinnock dangerously isolated. On the NEC he failed to overturn the deselection of the right-wing MEP, Brian Key, because his centrist allies voted with the left.

Kinnock's attempt to get the rules for the reselection of Labour MPs changed at the last party conference also blew up in his face because centrist unions defected to the left. The centre-left trade union block on which Kinnock now depends is much less reliable than the right-wing union bosses who shored up Hugh Gaitskell.

The left, in a significant change of tactics, is now getting ready to pull the rug from under Kinnock. Until now it has seemed traumatized by the scale of Labour's 1983 defeat and disarmed by the fear that continued internal bickering would help the Alliance. Its hitherto conciliatory approach has been reflected in its attitude to reselection. It has not attempted to organize a concerted, national move against right-wing MPs and instead has concentrated on getting left-wing candidates selected for marginal seats.

Kinnock's shift to the right and his attitude to the miners' strike is slowly prompting a change. Yet even now many of Tony Benn's closest advisers are urging him not to stand against the party leader. Some suggest that a lesser figure should contest the leadership as a symbolic protest, while others argue that an open contest of any sort should be avoided.

Kinnock could easily defeat a left-wing challenge. His meteoric rise split the old left alliance by enlisting many erstwhile Benn supporters. The left remains divided and demoralized. The Campaign for Labour Party Democracy, which spearheaded the Bennite campaign in the early 1980s, has lost many members. Even staff on *Tribune*, the independent Bennite journal, last week contemplated an act of *lèse-majesté*: an editorial attacking Benn's call for a general strike (although in the end it was not written).

While Kinnock's personal position is not threatened, however, he would be well advised to review his strategy. He is the first Labour leader to be elected by all sections of the party, rather than solely by Labour MPs, and for this reason possesses a special authority. He could potentially command the loyalty of most activists and turn it into a campaigning party aimed at shifting public opinion rather than fighting obscure internal battles. But to achieve this transformation, Kinnock will need to motivate his activists and revert to the centre-left ticket on which he was elected.

Admittedly he is in a difficult position. He must work effectively with the right-wing majority in the PLP and Shadow Cabinet. He must also win back lost voters, many of whose views are well to the right of Labour's right wing. A left-wing backlash could spell disaster at the next general election, however. Even if the left is weak it can still embroil the party in a long and self-destructive civil war. If this were to happen, Kinnock's central objective of winning back former Labour voters would be set at naught.

The way out of the dilemma is not easy. Kinnock should now seek to balance the different factions within the party by leading from the centre rather than the right. And instead of passively responding to the shifting middle ground of British politics, as in the miners' dispute, he should seek to close the gap between party and public opinion with courage and imagination. By a curious irony, *realpolitik* is best served by Kinnock following his own political principles.

The author was editor of New Socialist, *1981-84, and is now head of the Department of Communications at Goldsmiths' College, University of London.*

One killing only – for gamesman Jaffe

Jack Jaffe is worried that the British are not very good at games. He is a games inventor and not, he admits, over-employed. He spends most of this time thinking about games and at least some actually playing them, but selling a new game to a British maufacturer is, he calculates, approximately one thousand times more difficult than selling a first novel to a publisher.

So he no longer tries and has now produced and marketed two of his own board games. Libido, an inhibition – dispelling game about sexual attitudes, has sold "well into six figures" since 1971 and is still going strong, although only weeks ago Jaffe says he met a retailer who insisted that he could not stock it under the terms of his lease because it was a marital aid. In Persona players are invited to make uninhibited commentaries on each other's personalities.

Unlike Continuo (a variant on dominoes), Mandala (a variant on Ludo) or Kensington (a variant on Boredom), his new offering, Save the President!, will not be marketed under the self-awarded title Game of the Year. That is partly because Jaffe insists that he worked more than three years to develop it, and he thinks it should last at least half a century.

The game incorporates all Jaffe's favourite elements; a little chance, a great deal of skulduggery, plenty of opportunity to undermine other players' ploys, uncertainty about everybody else's identity, let alone their next move, and no way of knowing who has won until the game is over.

It also includes, claims Jaffe, a whole battery of new play techniques. "It is a great British invention", he insists, "unmatched by anything found in the United States. Perhaps the most remarkable first is that it plays just as well for two as it does for three to six players, because the two-player game is different and more strategic."

The idea for Save the President! sprang from a visit to Washington DC and the observation that the city's streets, on a grid plan, were admirably suited to a board game.

The conception came two years before the attempt on President Reagan's life, but 16 after the assassination of President Kennedy. To a serious games player, Jaffe suggests, events in the real life world are not really relevant. "I am not by any means advocating that anybody goes out and kills anybody", he says, "but the most popular games of our time – video games – are practically all based on the idea of killing somebody. I wanted the same excitement with something a bit more to it than mere hand and eye coordination."

Jaffe is the founder of the Society of Inventors of Games and Mathematical Attractions (SIGMA) whose 30 members meet on alternate Sundays in Covent Garden to play at adult games collected from all over the world. (Among the most popular are Acquire, Civilization and Scrabble which, 50 years on, Jaffe concedes is still the best word game. But intelligent interest in board games remains distressingly low. Recently he has been developing promotional business games for companies to use in marketing. The biggest and best, he complains, remain under wraps in corporate boardrooms.

A former journalist, Jaffe has perfected the rules of Save the President! to what he describes as "exquisite clarity": "If there was a Booker prize for games rules, Save the President! would win it."

But not only are there no Booker prizes for games in Britain, there are no reviews either. In America the magazine *Games*, now published by *Playboy*, sells more than a million copies a month. The French *Jeux et Strategies* sells 150,000, and the German *Spielbox* prospers. In Britain *Games and Puzzles* magazine has disappeared. Save the President! has just had its first review, in an amateur's duplicated "fanzine" called *Mad Policy* with a mailing list of perhaps a few hundred. At least the writer liked it.

Robin Young

Brian Crozier

Five steps to beat the IRA

Mrs Thatcher is often seen these days in the company of the Irish Prime Miniser, Dr Garret FitzGerald. They have met at summits in Dublin and at Chequers, at a funeral in Delhi, and another summit is in prospect. Relations between the two leaders were said to be cool after the Chequers meeting last month, but in general London and Dublin are closer than they have been for a long time.

Yet prospects of a joint strategy for defeating the IRA, as distinct from "improving security" and other such euphemisms for mere containment, seem as remote as ever. And no hopes of a new strategy for victory emerged in the Queen's Speech.

For 16 years successive governments have tried, with varying success, to *contain* the IRA. There has never been a firm commitment to *defeating it*. As a consequence terrorism continues with no end in sight. Being by definition fanatics, the terrorists will not give in merely because some of them might be captured and sentenced, not to death, but to a spell in jail.

The reasoning is clear. As Conor Cruise O'Brien has observed, the IRA godfathers hope that in the end, all political initiatives having failed, the British will simply pull out. The consequences would be dire: a civil war in the north, spreading to the whole island; an embittered Protestant enclave in Ulster, probably proclaiming its independence in a UDI of its own; and in due course, an offshore "Cuba" to provide a base for Britain's enemies.

At the Chequers summit Mrs Thatcher rejected a unified Ireland, a confederation and joint authority and reaffirmed that Northern Ireland was part of the United Kingdom. There was a commitment to cooperation between the two governments in matters of security but it fell well short of a joint strategy.

Yet terrorism can be defeated, and needs to be if even the most ingenious and well-meant political initiatives are to have the slightest chance of success. If it is not, the brooding threat of further violence is guaranteed to stifle any attempts to reconcile bitterly divided communities.

In admittedly very different circumstances the terrorists of the Baader-Meinhof gang in West Germany and of the Italian Red Brigades have been defeated. In Uruguay, the Tupamaros were crushed 12 years ago, and it has taken that long for that little country to return to democracy. It is not straining the bounds of patriotism to believe that we could do better than that.

Just what would a strategy for victory in Ulster mean? First, taking the fundamental decision to go for victory, not containment; and secondly, facing the need for necessarily harsh and unpopular measures, for a limited period. The IRA Provisionals are waging a war against the British authorities and the Protestant community. It is an *internal* war, not a civil war. The law does not, of course, recognize the concept of an internal war, but then the law often lags behind reality. In a conventional war against an external enemy the public readily understands the need for exceptional measures "for the duration", confident that any suspended liberties will be restored when hostilities are over. The British public accepted detention without trial under Regulation 18-B during the Second World War, yet full democratic rights were restored unimpaired when it was over.

In stark terms, a strategy of victory would mean:

● Detention without trial in Nothern Ireland for longer periods than now permitted by the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

● The restoration of "interrogation in depth" of the kind that was approved (with one dissenting voice) by Lord Parker's committee in March 1972 as having brought unprecedented results and probably saved many lives (but condemned by a committee of inquiry under Sir Edmund Compton, whose views prevailed).

● Naval interdiction of arms supplies by sea, for instance from Libya.

● As proposed by Lord Denning after the Brighton outrage, the application of the existing death penalty for high treason. The advantage of this proposal is that it would avoid the need to press for a restoration of the death penalty through a reluctant House of Commons. The weakness of it lies in the fact that the many apprehended terrorists with Irish citizenship can hardly be charged with treason to the Crown. If no way can be found around this problem it would be necessary for the Government, if it decided to go for victory, to rally its supporters in the light of the fact that the public favours the restoration of the death penalty for certain crimes, even if the House does not.

● The most controversial necessity of all, perhaps, would be the need to exercise "hot pursuit" across the border.

Ideally, such measures would require the full cooperation of the Irish government, which even under Dr FitzGerald looks politically impossible. Whatever may be said publicly about joint efforts, the Republic shuns direct contact between its own and the British Army, even though the police forces cooperate up to a point. Moreover, the Republic's record on extradition leaves much to be desired.

A strategy of victory, therefore, would probably in the end imply unilateral British action, inviting articulated outrage from certain sectors, including the United Nations. In other words, it would all be rather unpleasant. But then, so is terrorism.

Philip Norman

A rough passage to the movies

New York

David Lean's film adaptation of *A Passage to India* is showing exclusively at one of New York's smartest cinemas, the Ziegfeld on West 54th Street. As we had decided to see it on only the second night of its run, and being somewhat hardened to Manhattan movie-going, we arrived a full hour before the scheduled performance time. Already, two queues stretched almost the full block to Sixth Avenue. The first queue was for ticket buyers. The second consisted of those who had paid their $5 and, with New York's characteristic regard for paying customers, had been herded to wait behind a blue police barrier.

It took 20 minutes in the first queue to reach the single ticket window, in a foyer easily able to accommodate all those outside were it not "policy" (a word never challenged here) that film and theatre audiences may not await the performance on the premises. Some effort, however, had been made to fill the empty space with uniformed ushers bawling "Have your money *out* when you reach the window!" and "No standing inside. The ticket holders' line is *outside*".

The ticket holders' line waited 50 minutes, as meek in that penitential darkness as it would have been in a rainstorm or snow shower. Around us, we noticed the faces of prominent journalists, publishers and members of other opinionated professions. All shuffled together obediently when a guard with a loudhailer passed by, barking, "Close up that line, folks. Close it up".

Eight minutes before performance time, permission was given for the customers to come in. The ticket holders' line surged forward like wagons in a nineteenth-century land rush. The over-corralled over-policed queue, of course, was instantly beyond control. In front of us, a further guard reared up, shrieking, "Hold the line here!" We just got by. Our friend, visiting New York from Buckinghamshire, was left behind. "Please", we cried. "He's with us." Our friend somehow slipped through. "I said 'hold that line'," the usher spat at the next customer. "Don't move till I tell ya to move! Got it?"

We arrived by packed escalator in an upper foyer whose pandemonium surpassed all Forster's descriptions of the Chandrapore bazaars. There were frantic queues for the popcorn stand, the ladies' room and – more inexplicably – the telephones. More ushers moved against the tide, helpfully saying "Showtime in less than one minute".

In the auditorium, the lights were already dimming even though hundreds of people still had not found seats. We had been lucky to spot five together – two for late arriving friends – in an area which British cinema goers once used to call "the Ninepennies". Thick plastic debris and old popcorn, left by the previous house, crunched under our feet. As the credits rolled, the frantic scurrying and pleas of "are all these taken?" grew more piteous. Our friend from Buckinghamshire remarked: "It's never like this at the Regal, Marlow."

A Passage to India is a terrible disappointment. David Lean, above all directors, has proved it possible to bring great literature to the screen intact. Here he was working with a book which, for all its subtle metaphors, is never less than utterly cinematic. Hollywood market forces, presumably, are responsible for the gratuitous shots of lancers and night mail trains, and the stubborn misinterpretation of Forster's characters and their motives. Thus, Adela Quested and Professor Godbole become major characters while the relationship between Aziz and Fielding shrinks to a mere vignette.

Two or three of Forster's lines survive in a script whose lameness hardly matters since, to suit the American attention span, most scenes cut as soon as they have begun. The ending has been moved from Mau to scenic Srinagar. Gone is the wonderful coda when Aziz and Fielding try to embrace but their horses, like their cultures, swerve apart. In David Lean's version, Aziz writes sentimentally to Miss Quested: "So glad all that unpleasantness at the Malabar Caves is over."

Because we were an upmarket audience – and because this had been called "a dark comedy of manners" by the *New York Times* – the auditorium was relatively free of talk. Most movies here play against an upoar recalling the Saturday morning matinees of my boyhood. Nor was there detectable marijuana smoke. Upmarket New Yorkers, however, still drink noxious brown fizzy drinks and consume popcorn from outsize tubs, imparting to the most hushed on-screen moments a sound like armies advancing over gravel. Being an upmarket audience, there was also an occasional "beep" as someone's jogger's stopwatch alarm accidentally went off.

When I get back to England, I know the first thing I'm going to do. I'm going to book a season ticket in pertetuity at the Regal, Marlow.

TIMES PAST THE TIMES

P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE ENTITY OF LONDON

In Acacia Avenue, NW all is still. The laurel bushes of London's suburbia have not disgorged Conservative councillors and parliamentarians banging the drum in support of the Government's proposals for the future of London government. On the face of it here is a puzzle. The Secretary of State for the Environment continues to aver that abolishing the Greater London Council is a boon for boroughs; it kills the "upper tier" and its imposts; it brings public services into proximity. But Hillingdon and Havering persist in their mundane worries about the disposal of waste, the green belt and grants. The Harrovians know their parish, and know the limits to the co-operation and joint boards on which the Government sets such store. And in all the boroughs and through the ranks of the capital's MPs runs a growing conviction that this bill is bad for London – yes, that entity does exist – and its easy rejection of the principle of direct election in the provision of public service is a dangerous thing at this phase of the nation's life. When Parliament reassembles in the New Year and the abolition bill proceeds through committee rectifying amendments should receive strong support.

The two strongest objections to the Local Government Bill's plan for London are these. Whatever happens to administration, the Government cannot abolish London. Between Richmond and Hammersmith there are shared concerns (for example, the flight path into Heathrow!). Denizens of the 32 boroughs share interests in transport, public safety and public health; there is an emotion and a culture that is London, which ought to be expressed through a political organ more local than parliament yet less parochial than the borough. Besides, however imperfect our system of property rates in aligning voting power and responsibility for tax-paying, that is no argument against the ballot box. Even the degraded politics of a directly-elected body are superior to the high-minded unaccountability of a quango.

Blueprints for directly-elected London-wide body abound. The Conservative group of GLC councillors have worked at this; Mr Cyril Taylor's Bow Group deliberations have influenced backbenchers. The functional responsibilities of such a body have precisely to be defined. Its ambit would be only those activities too large to be encompassed within a single borough – fire and civil defence, tourism, highways, waste disposal, the green belt, certain parks, concert-halls and museums. It ought to be a tight list, to include administration of the debt built up over the years on the name of all London. Execution of functions, notably fire and waste, would be carried out day-to-day by agencies. The London-wide body might, for example, have access, for monitoring and informal auditing, to the accounts of that quango turned nationalized industry, Thames Water.

A GLC Mark II, ministers have exclaimed when offered such amendments. It certainly need not, and should not, be that. The experience of GLC Mark I has given enough ammunition to redefine more tightly the new body's role, protecting the citizens of London from bad spending, overmanning and political manipulation.

London's administration has always shown an untidy pattern in which the only consistent element has been the intense interest of Whitehall, and not only in public order. There is no reason why a reconstructed London-wide body should fit into any of the existing categories, with wide general powers to tax and spend; it would in any case be required to enter a close and continuing fiscal relationship with Whitehall. The government of the capital will always be anomalous. The passage of the abolition bill presents the opportunity not to remove the anomaly but to establish the necessary London-wide element on the sure footing of a direct franchise.

THE KREMLIN'S CHOICE

Last September an event occurred in Moscow which, surprised even the most seasoned Western observers. The extremely competent Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, the chief of staff and a deputy defence minister, who had already distinguished himself by his ingenious attempt to exculpate the Soviet Union of the responsibility for the shooting down of the Korean airliner, was relieved of his post and despatched to command the Warsaw Pact forthwith on the Western front. What could his removal mean? Would the Russians be more or less ready to resume arms control negotiations as a result?

With the death last Thursday of Marshal Dimitry Ustinov, last September's events now take on a clearer aspect. Obviously Marshal Ustinov's fading health must have become apparent to the Soviet leaders. Faced with the possibility of the Defence Minister's portfolio falling into the hands of a proficient professional soldier (albeit a member of the Party) – someone who was clearly less than impressed by the intellectual grasp that his political superiors showed of complex military questions – the men in the Kremlin must have feared for their ability to retain total control over the armed forces, the lynchpin of the Soviet state.

Moreover, Marshal Ogarkov, in his writings, had put forward military doctrines at variance with the official policy of the USSR. He had argued in favour of a strategy relying less on nuclear weapons and more on conventional ones capable of making deep strikes into enemy territory. That in itself would not be terribly serious. But the foes he had in mind were to be found not in the West but in the East. His dismissal highlights the growing tension between the Party which would like to continue to formulate military strategy with a view to the ideological struggle between the Soviet Union and the West, and the military, which would like far greater attention to be devoted to China, whom they believe to be the real enemy of the USSR.

The fact that Marshal Ogarkov still retains a senior position indicates that this conflict has been by no means resolved.

With Marshal Ogarkov out of the way, the three military contenders for Marshal Ustinov's post were the three deputy Defence Ministers: Marshal Sergei Akhromeyev, the new Chief of Staff; Marshal Viktor Kulikov, the commander-in-chief of the Warsaw Pact forces; and Marshal Sergei A. Sokolov, who had already stood in for Marshal Ustinov on November 7 at the military parade commemorating the revolution. A fourth candidate was Mr Grigory Romanov, a civilian, a member of the Politburo, who has been responsible for the supervision of the defence industries.

Whoever was to succeed Marshal Ustinov would have to be someone prepared to be completely subservient to the wishes of the Politburo. Marshal Akhromeyev clearly was such a man but his relative newness to the job precluded his rising even further immediately to take the Defence Ministry portfolio. Marshal Kulikov's appointment would probably have caused difficulties. In his case the members of the Politburo probably felt that they would find themselves permanently fighting a rearguard action in resisting the armed forces' demands for greater resources. Ideally the Kremlin would have preferred a civilian to hold the portfolio. But Mr Romanov probably did not want the job. He is one of the leading contenders for the general secretary's post, which is bound to fall vacant soon. He knows that a powerful figure in the Defence Ministry, someone who already had extensive connections with the security forces, would lead to substantial sections of the party turning against him, fearing – as they have done so many times in the past – the emergence of a new "Bonaparte". As a result he would probably not have been in the running for the most coveted prize of all.

Ironically, the military probably did not want him either, but for exactly the opposite reason. They wanted to revert to the tradition of having a professional soldier holding the post. In the end the job went to the only remaining contender, Marshal Sergei Sokolov, who had previously been responsible for administrative, logistical and financial affairs within the Defence Ministry. Some observers believe that his appearance on November 7 showed that the decision had been made as early as that.

In view of his age – 73 – and his background he is not likely to prove too resistant to the Politburo's demand that he makes sure that military spending does not get out of hand. What the Politburo will want from him is a clearly worked out list of the needs of the armed forces which can subsequently be formulated into coherent negotiating positions at the arms control talks which are to be resumed in the new year.

On the other hand, in view of his age again, he is unlikely to be in charge of the Defence Ministry for very long. With Marshal Ogarkov (who clearly has a strong following within the armed forces) still holding a senior position and with the struggle for Mr Chernenko's succession continuing in the background, the new appointment will bring only a temporary lull in the fight for the right to determine Soviet policy for the coming decades.

PURE AND BLESSED FOOD

Not many begin a major meal with a blessing no doubt because "saying grace" too easily becomes the meaningless muttering of pious generality. It seems more honest to plunge straight into the feast. It is edifying, nevertheless, to recall the practices of Orthodox Jews in relation to food. Its preparation, from start to finish, is governed by a code of religious observances. The Jewish housewife, engaged in the special skills of her kitchen, is deemed to be performing religious as well as culinary rites. The very raw material she uses must be of a particular standard. And where meat is concerned, the rules are intended to show respect to the animal. The very restrictiveness of the kosher regime suggests that the killing of animals for human food is a dispensation from God, not a natural right of man, who must use the privilege carefully.

It is ironic, therefore, that from time to time animal welfare organizations seek to create a public fuss about the alleged cruelty of shechita. For in respect for animal life, the Jews were there first, and are still ahead. But it is also quite understandable that all sorts of emotions should be stirred by the subject of "ritual slaughter". Our very squeamishness at discussing whatever goes on in abattoirs is proof enough.

Essentially the Jewish and Islamic modes of slaughter differ from what might be called the secular mode in insisting that the animal should be healthy, and intact. To stun it, by electrical or mechanical means, is by definition to injure it before killing it, though for the entirely laudable object of rendering it unconscious first. The animal is killed under legal dispensation granted to those religious communities, by one swift stroke of a sharp knife. It must be accepted that the Moslem community in Britain has not yet attained the high level of organized supervision practised by the Jewish community, and there are still occasional notorious lapses. But this method of killing, done properly, is by no means necessarily inhumane.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is continuing to campaign against shechita, notwithstanding that attempts to interest Parliament in its prohibition have come to nothing. The case for saying it is a cruel practice is based on some research work done with electroencephelograph equipment, which has apparently shown that measurable brain activity can be detected for up to 90 seconds after the act. Against this is set scientific evidence that the sudden collapse of blood-pressure renders the beast unconscious within a second or two. In humans and animals, EEG readings are no proof of consciousness: it is argued they are not even proof of life, as they can be detected in decapitated animals.

This technical dispute is amenable to a technical solution, and there is scope for some expert investigation under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture to set out in search of it. Public concern is not automatically illegitimate, nor motivated by ill-will towards the minority groups concerned, and those with good-will and open minds are entitled to some reassurance by such media.

The case for allowing these slaughter techniques prescribed by Jewish and Islamic religious codes is wider than such technical considerations, however, which set a higher burden of proof on those who would prohibit them. Religious rights are real and important, and cannot simply be weighed against "animal rights", a philosophically questionable concept. The consequences for two important religious minorities in Britain of prohibiting shechita and halal would be quite enormous, and such an act would itself be enormously offensive to their sensitivities. They would be entitled to point to the sometimes genuinely inhumane practices involved in the "secular" processes of animal husbandry and slaughtering, and ask what the real motive was for singling them out so blatantly.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr Levin and the cause of tolerance

From Mr Eric Heffer, MP for Liverpool Walton (Labour)

Sir, With reference to Bernard Levin's piece in *The Times* features (December 24), I suppose one could not have expected anything better from someone like him, who years ago, before I was an MP, and when I was a councillor and chairman of the works department in Liverpool, wrote that because I believed in a trade union shop for the works department I should have a concrete block tied round my neck and be dropped into the Mersey.

I also remember that around the same time he wrote that if Harold Wilson became Prime Minister he would leave Britain. In view of his often vitriolic writing it is a pity he didn't. He has not contributed one iota to the cause of tolerance.

What amazes me about the House of Commons episode is that not one journalist from those newspapers that criticised me asked me for my reasons for not standing, but without enquiry rushed into print making me out to be an unfeeling villain sullenly sitting in the chamber.

The fact is, I was by no means the only one to remain seated when poor John Wakeham struggled to his seat. According to David McKie in *The Guardian* (December 14) Enoch Powell also remained seated. Yet I note that not one paper has said "shame" or anything else about that. I do not know Enoch Powell's reasons, but mine were that whilst I felt very pleased that John Wakeham was back, I thought it unseemly that people should be cheering, waving order papers etc., when he must still be grieving the loss of his beloved wife. I was deeply moved at the sight of him, so obviously frail and sufferng the effects of the tragedy.

I also felt he was being used and I made that point afterwards to one of the Tory whips. On that morning he had a photo-call and press conference, and he entered the chamber on the very day of the Enfield by-election. Two days earlier Norman Tebbit had issued a statement to the Enfield electors that only the Conservatives were really against terrorism and that is why they should be given the vote.

The Tory party is the most ruthless political machine and I believe both Norman Tebbit and John Wakeham were used by that machine to boost their sagging support in Enfield. I was glad to see John Wakeham back on the road to recovery but I did not like what in my view was the unscrupulous political use being made of the tragedy.

Your readers will be interested to know that immediately after the Brighton bombing I issued a statement condemning it and sending sympathy to the chairman of the Tory conference, I did that as the chairman of the Labour party conference which had just ended.

Why I should be writing this I really cannot understand. Whether Eric Heffer or anyone else stood or not is really of no importance. There are so many more important things against which Mr Levin could vent his wrath. But I have ceased to expect any more than pettiness and rancour from Mr Levin's pen. It is a pity if obvious talents are not used to better purpose.

Yours sincerely,
ERIC HEFFER,
House of Commons.

From Miss Pamela Ann Smith

Sir, Mr Bernard Levin is quite right to point out, quoting Mr Roy Hattersley, that Mr John Wakeham's appearance in the House of *Commons after his recovery from* the horrors of the Brighton bombing "personified the triumph of democracy over terrorism."

However, am I not right in detecting in Mr Levin's assault on Mr Eric Heffer in the same column a kind of extremism and loss of common humanity – the very traits that he seeks to attribute to Mr Heffer for remaining seated while the House rose to greet Mr Wakeham's entry?

I know of few articles published in the recent past that have heaped so much personal abuse on one man. Having known Mr Heffer when he chaired the Labour Party's subcommittee on the Middle East, I was greatly impressed by his tolerance, initiative and depth of knowledge on subjects that ranged from the vintage of Chilean wines, the biographies of Austrian social democrats to the intricacies of Israeli electoral politics.

To those who sought to reduce the Arab-Israeli conflict to slogans and invective, whether they be pro-Palestinian or arch Beginites, Mr Heffer has always been ready to point out the views of the other side. More generally, he has criticised the *regime in Poland and expressed* support for Solidarity as well as for those who are now suffering the assaults of the Soviet-backed government in Ethiopia. These policies are hardly consistent with the kind of demagogic, irrational and intolerant support of the international Communist Party that Mr Levin attributes to Mr Heffer.

Nor, I doubt, will Mr Wakeham, the Conservative Party, or *The Times* readers be greatly served by an analysis of Mr Heffer's political motivation that reduces his actions to a question of his "vast and unshapely bulk" or which labels him an "insensate beast".

Mr Levin himself seems taken aback at one point by his own invective, commenting, "I hardly know why I write [these words]." Surely if he really wants to know why Mr Heffer failed to greet Mr Wakeham in the same manner as others in the House he ought simply to ask him. That would save us all a lot of Christmas ill will from Mr Levin's poisonous pen.

Yours sincerely,
PAMELA ANN SMITH,
25 Petherton Road, N5.
December 26.

Battery-powered car

From Mr George Isted

Sir, The battery-powered town car (report, December 14) which is to cost £400 and which is to be launched by Sir Clive Sinclair next month is quite likely to become very popular.

However, it raises to my mind an important issue, for I understand from other sources that the vehicle is designed to take advantage of regulations which came into force in August allowing such vehicles to be driven by anyone over 14 without the need for a licence, insurance, *road tax, or crash helmet.*

I can quite foresee owners and drivers of such vehicles being involved from time to time in quite serious road accidents where personal injuries might be sustained and where substantial damages might be awarded against such owners or drivers.

It seems to be in nobody's interest to allow such vehicles to be driven on the highway without third-party liability insurance, neither from the point of view of the party who might be liable for damages (and being uninsured be unable to pay), nor from the point of view of the party who might suffer injury or damage (and, there being no insurance in force, be unable to recover).

In the same vein I have noticed of recent years an apparent significant increase in the number of pedal cyclists using busy main roads, particularly at rush-hour times, and incline to the view that some form of third-party liability insurance ought to be compulsory in their case also.

I am Sir, your obedient servant,
GEORGE ISTED,
(Senior Lecturer in Insurance),
City of London Polytechnic,
Department of Banking and Insurance,
School of Business Economics and Social Studies,
84 Moorgate, EC2.
December 15.

The cares of office

From Dr Bernard Dixon

Sir, At this joyful season, I request the favour of your columns to make a suggestion which may possibly be welcome to politicians of all parties, and indeed to political theatre's public audience.

Sir Keith Joseph has been looking more than usually harassed recently, and I believe I know the reason why. Like many before him (though he shows it more) Sir Keith has been called upon to shoulder twin burdens as Secretary of State for both Education and Science. This is unfair, irrational, and – as we witnessed recently – increasingly unworkable.

For a sensitive minister to be continually yapped at, now by physicists, now by teachers, now from the right, now from the left, is a nuisance. But to find himself withdrawing plans for parental tuition fees by transferring money back from the science Vote on the very day when the chairman of the Advisory Board for the Research Councils has thanked him for finding those extra funds for science, indicates an intolerable turmoil.

This is precisely the sort of manoeuvre which caused even Ivan Pavlov's well-trained dogs acute distress. Is that a reasonable return for a lifetime of public service? Or have we now reached the point at which, while recognizing that science and education are not unconnected, future governments should create separate portfolios and separate departments for these vitally important areas of national life?

Yours Sincerely,
BERNARD DIXON,
81 Falmouth Road,
Chelmsford,
Essex.
December 18.

VAT on publications

From the Master and the Upper Warden of the Stationers' & Newspaper Makers' Company

Sir, In her widely reported speech on November 26 Mrs Thatcher quoted Goethe on the need for each generation to win again the victories of its forebears. She was making the point that we are all guardians of democracy.

Her words should hearten those today who are worried that the Government may be about to impose a levy on the written word.

Looking back over its 500-year history, the Stationers' Company has helped win many victories in the fight against the taxation of knowledge and to discredit the idea of such a tax whenever it has reappeared.

We strongly endorse the endeavours of those present-day guardians who are fighting to preserve the democratic right to a tax-free press, be it for books or newspapers.

Yours sincerely,
LAURENCE VINEY, Master,
RAY TINDLE, Upper Warden.
The Worshipful Company of Stationers & Newspaper Makers.
Stationers' Hall, EC4.

Flipping one's lid

From Mr H. B. Bullen

Sir, I have taken to wearing a béret basque. How does one raise the beret when greeting a lady?

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN BULLEN,
Chapel Cottage,
Bronydd,
Clyro,
Herefordshire.
December 12.

Economic links for S. African reform

From the Master of Hatfield College Durham

Sir, The award of the Nobel Peace Prize to Bishop Desmond Tutu and the demonstrations in the USA which led to President Reagan's denunciation of apartheid raise again the question: "What can we do to promote peaceful change in South Africa?"

Although there is broad agreement in this country that apartheid is abhorrent there is much less agreement about the steps which should be taken against it. The most obvious means of exerting pressure is through the extensive economic links between Britain and South Africa, and over the years there has been a persistent campaign for economic sanctions.

Currently the call (both in the USA and here) is for disinvestment. However, for that or any other forms of economic sanctions the first matter to be settled is the purpose for which they are imposed. Are they to symbolise abhorrence for apartheid and to demonstrate a refusal to cooperate with its perpetrators; or are they to protect the Government from anti-apartheid criticism; or are they to bring about political reform in South Africa?

If they are symbolic or to save the Government's skin perhaps they could be effective, but promoting political reform is much less certain. Previous experience of sanctions suggests that they are a blunt instrument which sometimes has little political effect and sometimes has the reverse impact to that desired. For instance, in this case they might lead to greater white intransigence and to adverse economic consequences for blacks inside South Africa and in the neighbouring states.

Another major problem with *sanctions is that those who are* responsible for imposing and implementing them – the government and the business community – are less than enthusiastic. No British government (and certainly not Mrs Thatcher's) has been willing to risk losing the economic advantages of the South Africa connection, suspecting that what Britain loses others will gain, and concerned about the political and economic implications at home. On their part the business and financial organisations are eager to extend, not curtail, economic activity and if sanctions were imposed they would do all they could to circumvent them.

It is, therefore, most unlikely that the British Government would impose sanctions, but it is not impossible. The British Govenment already imposes a UN arms ban *which has important economic* implications, and if there were enormous pressures at home and abroad, and if Britain were in danger of isolation from Western partners, the Government might take the step. However, it is most unlikely and it would be done with great reluctance.

Does that mean that the economic links cannot be used to help peaceful reform in South Africa? I think not, although the proposals I make are only a step on a long road and they will not satisfy those who aim for the rapid overthrow of the whole system.

My proposals are that the economic links should be used in a positive way to better the lot of blacks in the republic. The first step could be for the Government to be more vigorous in ensuring that British firms operating in South Africa comply rigorously with the terms of the EEC code of conduct. This could be done by regular and thorough checks and by exposing those who fall short.

Second, the business and financial communities could initiate a major development fund for blacks. That might be used in three ways: a) for urban improvement, such as housing; b) for education and training; c) for agricultural development in black rural areas.

This final objective – agricultural improvement – might eventually be of value for all black Africa. We are all conscious that unless there is substantial agricultural improvement there will be many more famines like the appalling tragedy which now faces Ethiopia.

It may be unrealistic to expect business organizations to mount a political challenge to the South African Government, but is it unreasonable to suggest that they set up a major development fund (perhaps coordinated by the United Kingdom - South Africa Trade Association) in a country in which many British companies have gained so much and many blacks have gained so little?

Yours faithfully,
JAMES BARBER, Master,
Hatfield College,
Durham.
December 20.

Mr Gorbachov's visit

From Dr Jonathan Sutton

Sir, On the basis of two days of fruitful talks with Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, Mrs Thatcher confirmed that she can "do business" with him. That may indeed be her hope, but is it not highly unrealistic to look forward to significantly improved relations with Soviet leaders and at the same time to do so little to promote or fund the study of Russian language and culture in this country?

Where are the British Government's future specialists and advisers on Kremlin policy to come from? According to figures given in the handbook *Russian in Schools*, that was published in 1982 by the Association of Teachers of Russian, the number of students entering for GCE A-level Russian dropped from 846 in 1971 to 379 in 1980.

In the same period those taking the O-level examination in Russian dropped from 3,145 to 1,798. This has occurred as a direct result of schools being forced, by economic pressures, to give up this subject which was given so much backing in the 1960s.

Russian specialists at all levels have sought to reverse this serious decline, well aware that for the vast majority of secondary school children in Britain Russian does not even feature as one of their language options. The new alternative O-level in "general Russian studies", introduced by the University of London Examination Board (and first examined in June, 1983) represents a valuable means of stimulating interest and of encouraging students to become well-informed.

As a teacher, I find students extremely concerned about the present tensions between East and West and anxious to understand them. Surely it is in the Government's own interests to promote such understanding as early as possible.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN SUTTON,
60 Camden Square, NW1.
December 17.

Preventing 'star wars'

From Colonel Jonathan Alford

Sir, In his letter (December 19) Mr James Hill appears (somewhat idiosyncratically) to have adopted pre-emption as a rationale for the US President's strategic defence initiative (SDI). He calls in one place for "electronic and laser-based pre-emptive systems" and in another for "a pre-emptive defence system".

If the words have any meaning, *Mr Hill's intention must be that the* US should somehow strike Soviet weapons before launch. "Pre-emptive defence" is universally taken to mean attacking the military forces of an opponent before he can attack you. Two things need saying.

The first is that the technologies envisaged for the SDI would not confer any capability whatsoever to destroy Soviet strategic weapons *before* launch. The second is that I cannot imagine anything more alarming for strategic stability than a capacity for massive pre-emption even if it was technically feasible (which clearly it is not).

I am confused and alarmed also by the way in which Mr Hill seems to propose the mingling of civilian and military space programmes. If he is really recommending a civilian route to ballistic missile defence, any prospects for technological restraint and arms control in this area of superpower competition, dim as they may be, would surely vanish.

From this it might reasonably be concluded that I am far closer to Wayland Kennet (feature, December 19) than I am to Mr Hill.

Yours etc,
JONATHAN ALFORD,
21 Irene Road, SW6.
December 20.

From Mr Ronald Youngs

Sir, Your editorial (December 17) on the visit of Mr Gorbachov omits a consideration which must be made if his position is to be understood.

Were you a well-informed Soviet citizen, would you not see the development of a fully effective American defence system, of a kind perhaps beyond the resources of the USSR, as creating the possibility of the destruction of your country, branded as evil, because there would be no fear of retaliation? And would you not, in consequence, require of your government, as its first priority, that it should do everything to prevent such a possibility?

Would you, in your own person, face to face with an ordinary Russian, be able to look him squarely in the eye and say that you are quite sure that there are not Americans in high places who harbour just such thoughts as he fears?

Yours faithfully,
RONALD YOUNGS,
Flat 2, Breakers,
Gorey, Jersey, Channel Islands.

The ring cycle

From Mr Peter Nahum

Sir, If two friends go to an auction together and both want the same item; are they likely to bid against each other?

Should knowledgeable dealers create large prices for ignorant auctioneers and then see the same auctioneer using that high price to compete with them?

There would be no auction rings if the auctioneers truly knew the price of each object they were selling. If they did there would be very few dealers. If there were very few dealers the auctioneers would not stay in business.

The auction ring law is a bad law for bad auctioneers. Let him who is innocent, be it Sotheby's or Christie's, Partridge or Mallet, throw the first stone.

Yours sincerely,
PETER NAHUM,
5 Ryder Street, SW1.
December 16.

Dressing down

From Sir Robin Hooper

Sir, Though I still, from time to time, wear a pin-striped suit, advancing age exempts me from jury service, so I have no personal axe to grind. But Mr John Archer's account of his experiences (December 17) leaves one fighting back an unworthy suspicion that defending counsel's objections to him had less to do with doubts whether their clients would get a fair trial than with possibly justified fears that they might.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN HOOPER,
Brook House,
Egerton,
Ashford,
Kent.
December 17.

COURT AND SOCIAL

SOCIAL NEWS

The Queen will visit the Sandringham and West Newton Primary School on January 22.

Princess Anne will attend the Veterinary Research Club's annual dinner at Senate House, Malet Street, on February 8.

The Duchess of Gloucester will attend the Gardeners' Company's ladies night dinner at the Mansion House on February 11.

The Duke of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Pioneer Corps, will attend the Changing of the Badge ceremony at Simpson Barracks, Northampton on February 13.

The Duchess of Gloucester will attend the Mountbatten Festival of Music, in aid of the Malcolm Sargeant Cancer Fund, at the Albert Hall on February 14.

The Duke of Gloucester will open the "Save Gibraltar's Heritage" conference at the National Army Museum on February 26.

The Duke of Gloucester will open an extension to Soundwell Technical College, Bristol on February 27.

Princess Alexandra will be present at a première of *Me and My Girl* in aid of the National Association of Youth Clubs, at the Adelphi Theatre, on February 11.

Forthcoming Marriages

Mr A. P. Hayes and Miss C. N. Bond

The engagement is announced between Andrew, younger son of the late Major John Hayes, MC, and Mrs M. Hayes, of Epsom, Surrey, and Christine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Bond, of Muswell Hill, London.

Mr C. M. Hogg and Miss M. M. L. Travers

The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs Sandy Hogg, of Mugdock, Glasgow, and Margaret, daughter of the late Mr John Travers and of Mrs Marie Travers, of Hillhead, Glasgow.

Birthdays today

Colonel Sir Roderick Brinckman, 82; Mr G. C. Brunton, 63; Miss Marlene Dietrich, 80; Mr Lance Gibbs, 59; Air Chief Marshal Sir Derek Hodgkinson, 67; the Earl of Inchcape, 67; Sir William Kilpatrick, 78; Miss Pat Moss, 50; Dr J. N. L. Myres, 82; Professor D. H. Northcote, 63; Sir Anthony Plowman, 79; Professor B. R. Rees, 65; Sir Norman Reid, 69; Mr Jeffrey Sterling; Miss Janet Street-Porter, 38; Brigadier Dame Mary Tyrwhitt, 81.

Judge retires

Judge Edward Jones retired from the Circuit Bench on the Northern Circuit on December 21. He was appointed a county court judge in 1969 and became a circuit judge under the Courts Act 1971.

Queen reflects on peace and friendship

The following is the text of the Queen's Christmas Day message to the Commonwealth:

"Last June, we celebrated the fortieth anniversary of D-Day. That occasion in Normandy was a memorable one for all of us who were able to be there.

"It was partly a day of sadness, as we paid our respects to those who died for us, but it was also a day full of comradeship and of hope.

"For me, perhaps the most lasting impression was one of thankfulness that the forty intervening years have been ones of comparative peace.

"The families of those who died in battle, and the veterans who fought beside them in their youth, can take comfort from the fact that the great nations of the world have contrived, sometimes precariously maybe, to live together without major conflict.

"The grim lessons of two world wars have not gone completely unheeded.

"I feel that in the world today there is too much concentration on the gloomy side of life, so that we tend to underestimate our blessings. But I think we can at least feel thankful that in spite of everything, our children and grandchildren are growing up in a more or less peaceful world.

"The happy arrival of our fourth grandchild gave great cause for family celebrations. But, for parents and grandparents, a birth is also a time for reflection on what the future holds for the baby and how they can best ensure its safety and happiness.



"To do that, I believe we must be prepared to learn as much from them as they do from us. We could use some of that sturdy confidence and devastating honesty with which children rescue us from self-doubts and self-delusions.

"We could borrow that unstinting trust of the child in its parents for our dealings with each other.

"Above all, we must retain the child's readiness to forgive, with which we are all born and which it is all too easy to lose as we grow older. Without it, divisions between families, communities and nations remain unbridgeable.

"We owe it to our children and grandchildren to live up to the standards of behaviour and tolerance which we are so eager to teach them.

"One of the more encouraging developments since the war has been the birth of the Commonwealth. Like a child, it has grown, matured and strengthened, until today the vision of its future is one of increasing understanding and co-operation between its members.

"Notwithstanding the strains and stresses of nationalism, different cultures and religions and its growing membership, the Commonwealth family has still managed to hold together and to make a real contribution to the prevention of violence and discord.

"And it is not only in the Commonwealth that progress has been made towards a better understanding between nations. The enemies of 1944, against whom so many of our countrymen fought and died on those beaches in Normandy, are now our steadfast friends and allies.

"But friendship, whether we are talking of continents or next door neighbours, should not need strife as its forerunner.

"It is particularly at Christmas, which marks the birth of the Prince of Peace, that we should work to heal old wounds and to abandon prejudice and suspicion. What better way of making a start than by remembering what Christ said: "Except ye become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

"God bless you, and a very happy Christmas to you all – to parents and children, grandchildren and, of course, great-grandchildren.

Master builder's Gothic task

By Charles Knevitt, Architecture Correspondent

Master builder Jim Bambridge divides his time between the Dorset village of Winterborne Stickland and 110th Street on the edge of New York's Harlem.

His job for the past five years has been to finish building the world's largest cathedral, St John the Divine, started on December 27, 1892 and still at least 15 years from completion.

But Mr Bambridge's main task is to train eight new stone carvers in a tradition killed by the advent of modern architecture in the United States.

The unlikely story of what has come to be known as St John the Unfinished, began with an architectural competition won by Heins and La Farge for a Byzantine-Romanesque cathedral larger than Milan's and with a floor area bigger than Chartres and Notre Dame combined. It may not be quite as big as St Peter's in Rome, but then St Peter's is only a church.

Work was abandoned in 1911 but restarted the following year with a new architect, Ralph Adams Cram, of Cram and Ferguson, America's leading Gothic revivalist. His French Gothic style was used for the next phase, up until 1942, when it was abandoned for a second time until 1979.

Cram's grand scheme for crowning Manhattan's Morningside Heights is heading for completion. An $80 million appeal was launched in September and more than seven million dollars has already been committed. Two towers will be built to finish off the west front of the 8,600-seat episcopal cathedral, whose unique features include side aisles as high as the nave.

The task will be the culmination of Mr Bambridge's lifetime with stone. He was apprenticed at fifteen, attended the Brixton School of Building in London and then was employed with the City builders, Trollop & Colls. He worked on the US consulate in Toronto and on MP's accommodation at Westminster before moving to Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral in 1967.

Ten years later he was appointed master mason at Wells Cathedral and in 1979 was asked to help to complete St John the Divine.

He now spends five weeks at home in Dorset producing working drawings and full-size details, then returns to New York for three weeks, supervising the work and the setting-out shop.

He has two British assistants, Mr Stephen Boyle, the site construction manager, who served some time at York Minster; amd Mr Nicholas Fairplay, a carver and cutter. Fifteen people work on the towers and they have reached 14ft on the first. Both will be eventually 300ft high.

"If the job had come my way 15 years ago I would not have been able to do it," said Mr Bambridge, who is aged 56. "I needed to work at Liverpool first: it rounded me off".

The towers of St John are being built in Indiana limestone, the same stone used to build the Empire State Building, and which is similar to Portland stone. There will be 11,000 stones in each tower.

The cathedral has its critics, especially among the local black community, half of whom are jobless. Dr Wyatt Tee Walker, once Martin Luther King's chief of staff, who now runs the Canaan Baptist Church nearby, believes the cathedral is irrelevant to his congregation because it represents white culture and money.

Mr Bambridge says: "The building is more important than any man. I am keeping faith with those artisans and clergy who started it all off."





Mr Jim Bambridge working at his Dorset home on a detailed drawing of the Cathedral of St John the Divine, New York, and (below) the stark and unfinished cathedral as it is today.

Latest appointments

Mr Michael Joshua Hyam to be a Circuit Judge on the South Eastern Circuit.

The following to be chairman of the new family practitioners committee: Avon: Mr Philip Price; Barnet: Mr James Lemkin; Bradford: Mr James Fergusson; Bromley: Mr Bryan Collins; Cheshire: Mr Simon Cussons; Derbyshire: Dr John Williams; Ealing, Hammersmith and Hounslow: Mrs Jillian Stern; Hampshire: Mrs June Ayling; Hertfordshire: Mr Michael Johnson-Bar; Hillingdon: Mr Jeffery Woolf; Kensington, Chelsea and Westminster: Mr Robert Davies; Kent: Ms Catherine de Smith; Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham: Mr David Taylor; Newcastle: Mr William Forsyth; Norfolk: Professor Anthony Emerson; Rotherham: Mr James Coull MBE; St Helens and Knowsley: Mr John Dray.

Mr David Beeton, aged 45, Bath City Council's Chief Executive, to be secretary to the National Trust, rsponsible for administration, in particular membership, in succession to Mr Ivor Blomfield, who will take on a newly-created post with the trust of director for the regions.

To be members of the Parliamentary Boundary Commissions from January 1:

England: Mr Justice Watson, Judge John Newey, QC, Mr T M H Scott. Wales: Mr Justice Kenneth Jones, Mr J R Long, Mr M A McLaggan. Northern Ireland: Mr Justice Hutton, Mr P G Duffy, Mr W T Ewing.

Church news

Appointments

The new Archdeacon of Lindsey, diocese of Lincoln, is to be Canon Christopher Laurence, aged 55, who, since 1979, has been the Bishop's Director for Clergy Training in diocese of London. He succeeds the late Ven Bill Dudman.

The Rev A W Barton, Vicar of Benson, diocese of Oxford, to be also an Honorary Canon of Christ Church, Oxford, same diocese.

The Rev A E Bennett, Vicar of North and South Hykeham, diocese of Lincoln, to be Vicar of Heckfield with Mattingley with Rotherwick, diocese of Winchester.

The Rev P L Bishop, Vicar of Great Ayton, diocese of York, to be also Rural Dean of Stokesley (for five years), same diocese.

The Rev D F Bratley, Assistant Curate of Holbeach, diocese of Lincoln, to be Rector of Fleet with Gedney, same diocese.

The Rev G Buckland, Vicar of St Lawrence, Kirkdale, diocese of Liverpool, to be Vicar of St Mary, Grassendale, same diocese.

Th Rev R M Cattley, Extension Secretary, Church Pastoral Aid Society, London, to be Vicar of Dalton-in-Furness, diocese of Carlisle.

The Rev R E Chesterton, Team Vicar of Marfleet, diocese of York, to be Vicar of Marshchapel Group, diocese of Lincoln.

The Rev A G Cockrane, Assistant Curate of Clapham Team Ministry, diocese of Southwark, to be Assistant Curate of Spalding, St John, diocese of Lincoln.

The Rev G Corbett, Priest-in-charge of Bigbury, Ringmore and Kingston, diocese of Exeter, to be Vicar of Bigbury, Ringmore and Kingston, (united benefice), same diocese.

The Rev D Cooper, Vicar of Norton, diocese of York, to be also Rural Dean of Buckrose (for five years), same diocese

The Rev J Dawes, Chaplain to the Exe Vale Hospital Group, diocese of Exeter, to be Chaplin to the reddich and Bromsgrove District Hospitals, diocese of Worcester.

The Rev C Edmonds, Assistant Curate of Horsell, St Mary the Virgin, diocese of Guildford, to the Rector of Bisley and West End (united benefice), same diocese.

The Rev G M Elmore, Vicar of Newlyn, diocese of Truro, to be Rector of Redruth, same diocese.

Canon J Gathercole, Chaplain of Redditch and Bromsgrove Industrial Chaplaincy, diocese of Worcester, to be Team Leader of the Worcester Industrial Mission, same diocese.

The Rev H Goddard, Vicar of Martley and Wichenford, diocese of Worcester, to be also Priest-in-charge of Knighwick with Doddenham, Broadwas and Cotheridge, same diocese.

The A Hayward, Vicar of Wollescote, diocese of Worcester, to be Rector of Alvechurch, same diocese.

Canon J F Hester, Vicar of Brighton, St Peter with the Chapel Royal and St John the Evangelist, and Rural Dean of Brighton, St Nicholas on September 1, same diocese.

The Rev D Humphries, Vicar of Christ Church, Bedford, diocese St Albans, to be Vicar of Holy Trinity and St Andrew the Great, Cambridge, diocese of Ely.

The Rev S Howard, Chaplain of HM Borstal, Deerbolt, diocese of Durham, to be Rector of Ingoldmells with Addlethorpe, diocese of Lincoln.

The Rev D Jarmy, Curate-in-charge of St Leonards-on-Sea, St Peter and St Paul, diocese of Chichester, to be Vicar of Bexhill Sidney All Saints, same diocese.

Canon W R Lindsay, Vicar of Holmside, diocese of Durham, to be also Rural Dean of Lanchester, same diocese

The Rev P J Lloyd, Vicar of Chessington, St Mary, diocese of Guildfords, to be Vicar of Epsom, St Martin, same diocese.

The Rev E C Lyons, Team Vicar of the Bestwood Park Church Ecumenical Project, and the Church of Park Rise Ecumenical Project, diocese of Southwell, to be Vicar of West Hallam and Mapperley, diocese of Derby.

The Rev N G O'Connor, Vicar of South with North Hayling, of diocese of Portsmouth, to be Vicar of Corby Glen Group, diocese of Lincoln.

The Rev J A Pease, Vicar of St John, Bovey Tracey and Priest-in-charge of Chudleigh Knighton, diocese of Exeter, to be Vicar of St John, Bovey Tracey and Chudleigh Knighton (new united benefice), same diocese.

The Rev J M Peet, Priest-in-charge of St Bartholomew, Stamford Hill, diocese, of London, to be Vicar of be Vicar of the same parish.

The Rev S W Peace, Team Vicar of Ravingham, diocese of Norwich, to be Priest-in-charge of Thornton Group, diocese of Lincoln.

The Rev J Quill, Assistant Curate of Christ Church, Watford, diocese of St Albans, to be Adviser in Community Service, diocese of Worcester.

The Rev D P Reagon, Vicar of Northwich, St Luke and Holy Trinity, diocese of Chester, to be Vicar of Moulton, diocese of Lincoln.

The Rev F F C Roberts, Vicar of Little Missenden, diocese of Oxford, to be also an Honorary Canon of Christ Church, Oxford, same diocese.

The Rev M H Sabell, Senior Social Worker with the Deaf, Coventry City Council and Honorary Curate of St Martin-in-the-Fields, Finham, Coventry, diocese of Coventry, to be Chaplain to the Deaf, diocese of Sheffield.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy

CAPTAINS: R F Cobbold to Brazen in Cmd, May 30, 1984; A J Davies to MoD, Jan 8; N J Hill-Norton to MoD April 25; N Purvis to Collingwood in Cmd May 2; A B Richardson to Brilliant addl and as Comstanvforlant (as Cdre whila), April 2; R D Sinclair to MD Devonport Jan 2.

SURGEON CAPTAINS: R W P Paul to INM as Medcl-Offr-in-Charge, Jan 2; A J Rintoul to RNH Haslar as DNMST and Cons Adviser in ophthalmology, Jan 7.

COMMANDERS: D W Ashby to MoD with ACDS (Overseas) (actg rank of Capt whila) Jan 2; D J Brice to staff of FO Plymouth, Jan 14; E L Davies to staff of FONAC, March 19; T H Green to staff of Cincfleet, Dec 10; N A Hoskin to MoD (Londn) May 28.

SURGEON COMMANDERS: J F Hart to Osprey, May 9; J Hird as Staff Dental Surgeon to MGRM, April 4; D L May to Nelson, May 8; G H A Rudge to RNH Gibraltar, April 26.

WRNS

CHIEF OFFICER: A Savill to Staff of FO Plymouth Jan 18.

ROYAL MARINES

MAJORS: J M G Sheridan to be Loc Col RMR Tyne as CO, May 31; D B Whitcher, Dept of CGRM, March 19; G Whiteley to Dept of CGRM, March 15.

Retirements

ADMIRAL: Sir Peter Herbert, Jan 30.
REAR-ADMIRAL: G A Baxter, Feb 12.
CAPTAINS: P Badcock, Feb 24; C Orpe, Feb 14.

ROYAL MARINES

MAJOR: E D Watson, R M Deal, honorary rank of Lt-Col, July 7.

The Army

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL: D W M Elliott, RAOC, to MoD.

Retirements

BRIGADIERS: M N S McCord, MC, ADC, late R Irish; R A Plummer, ADC, late IG.

Royal Air Force

GROUP CAPTAINS: C P Baker to RCDS, Dec 22; P D Clarke to MoD, Dec 31.

Working underneath the arches

The British Rail Property Board is to spend £2m a year converting and restoring railway arches into accommodation forsmall businesses.

Science report

Pirate who became a literary success

By Tony Samstag

Gold was the bait, no doubt, for most of the seventeenth-century buccaneers and pirates, but among other motives "were the simple love of adventure, the desire to see strange new lands and, in a few cases, the thirst for knowledge," according to G. T. Corley Smith in the current issue of *Noticias de Galapagos*.

"Many of them deliberately chose to return home from the Spanish Main by sailing on westward and circumnavigating the earth.... 'Always a little further' might have been the motto fo the minority for whom loot was not the main attraction and these were the men whose writings made the Galapagos known to the world".

The English and French pirates were, of course, criminals in their own countries; but the Spanish colonies were considered fair game. "Even when England and France were at peace with Spain in Europe, it was tacitly accepted that there was 'no peace beyond the line' – that is, roughly speaking, west of the Azores.

"So the Spaniards plundered the Americas and buccaneers plundered the Spaniards, preferably by seizing their treasure-ships laden with silver and gold from the land of the Incas."

The *Butchelor's Delight*, a captured Danish slave ship of 40 guns, arrived in the Galapagos in 1684 with her pirate crew of about 70. They had set out to find the islands, whose existence had been hinted at by other seafarers, ostensibly because "Spanish defences had improved since Drake's time and it seemed prudent to lie up further from the mainland". Their commander, Captain John Cook, was seriously ill and had not long to live.

As his successor, Edward Davis, was to write: "Knowing that wee had more than an hundred prisoners on board and not knowing where to get water, nor where to find a place of making a Magazeene for flour but that wee should be hunted out and have our flour destroyed, wee sailed to the Westward to see if wee could find those Islands called the Galipoloes, which made the Spaniards laugh at us telling us they were Inchanted Islands, and that they were but shadowes and noe reall Islands."

A "masterly description" of the Galapagos written more than a century earlier was, Mr Corley Smith writes, "gathering dust in the archives of the Council of the Indies at Seville . . . It was the pirates, particularly the surprisingly literacy members of the crew of the Bachelor's Delight, who were the first to publicize the Galapagos".

William Dampier, whose melancholy portrait in the National Portrait Gallery is curiously subtitled "Pirate and Hydrographer", was an incorrigible note-taker and observer of natural history. Sadly for students of the Galapagos, it fell to him to nurse the ailing Captain Cook, so that his observations were limited to a single island.

But the notes he took were copious and accurate. "I took care to provide myself with a large joint of bamboo", he wrote, "which I stopped at both ends, closing it with wax, so as to keep out any water. In this I preserved my journal and other writings from being wet, though I was often forced to swim".

His published journal, *A New Voyage Round the World*, enjoyed a great literary success and established the author as a reformed character and a scientist of repute.

William Ambrose Cowley, another veteran of the Bachelor's Delight, was the first to draw a chart showing the individual islands. "By modern standards it was a rough affair but it served navigators for over a century. A patriotic pirate, he loyally named the islands after members of the English establishment, whose laws and authority he was flouting". Last of all he named one after himself, "Cowley's Inchanted Island", and it bears his name still.

Mr Corley Smith speculates as to whether the pirates might have introduced ferals to the islands, setting in train a series of threats to the indigenous wildlife that persist to this day, but reaches no firm conclusions. However: "They all mention careening their ships and it is difficult to believe that they hauled them up . . . without rats getting ashore, as they had already done on Juan Fernandez Island, further to the south."

Source: *Noticias de Galapagos*, no 40 (Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galapagos Islands, Greensted Hall, Ongar, Essex CM5 9LD).

OBITUARY

MR IAN HENDRY

Popular television actor



Ian Hendry, who died in the Royal Free Hospital, London on December 24 at the age of 53, was an actor who specialized in virile, aggressive roles, in films of which he had made a substantial number, and more predominantly from the mid 1950s onwards on television. On the small screen he is especially remembered for his starring roles in popular series like *Police Surgeon* and *The Lotus Eaters*.

Ian Hendry was born in Ipswich on January 13, 1931. His first experience of the world of theatre was when as a part time drama student he worked in cabaret as a stooge to Coco the Clown. Later, after National Service in the Royal Artillery he trained at the Central School of Speech and Drama.

From here he began a life in rep at Hornchurch and Worthing and was seen in Goldoni's *Servant of Two Masters* at the Edinburgh Festival. He also had film parts in *Simon and Laura* and *The Secret Place* at this period, but it was a successful season at the Oxford Playhouse which brought him to London and wider notice.

He secured himself a television following in the role of a polio patient in *Emergency Ward 10* and parts in films such as *Sink the Bismarck* and *In the Nick* further established him.

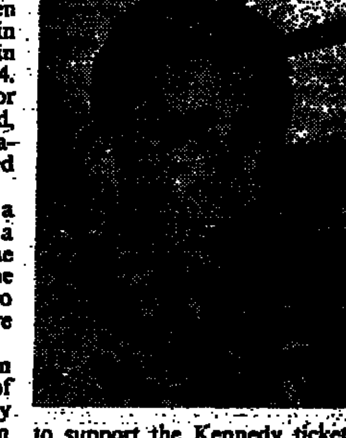
He became a sought after television actor, appearing in such series as *Probation Officer* and *The Avengers* of which he was one of the original trio, and *Police Surgeon*. But perhaps one of his most characteristic roles was as Erik Shepherd the tortured alcoholic trying to pull the threads of his life together in *The Lotus Eaters* in the 1970s.

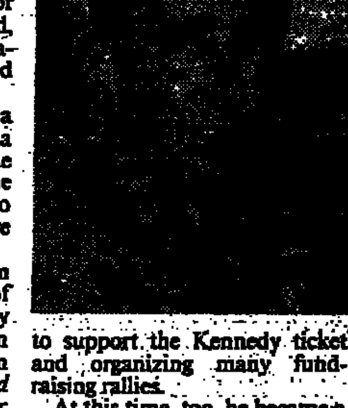
Hendry's own tempestuous and hard drinking personal life often seemed to echo his screen one, and the breakdown of his second marriage to the actress Janet Munro who was to have played his wife in the series, as it was about to go into production, threatened the entire venture when she withdrew from the role. She died from drink related problems in 1972 aged only 38.

In spite of more leading television roles and a series of films which included *Casino Royale*, *Get Carter*, *Theatre of Blood* and *The Bitch* Hendry's life continued to have its ups and downs and in 1980 he was declared a bankrupt, later being discharged on payment of his debts, thanks to his securing a major role in the television series *Maddie for Love* in which he starred with Nyree Dawn Porter.

Hendry's first marriage, to Joanna, a makeup artist, had been dissolved in 1962. His third marriage was to Sandy Jones, a former children's nanny, who survives him.

MR PETER LAWFORD





Peter Lawford the British born leading man who was seen as the suave Englishman in many Hollywood films died in Los Angeles on December 24. He was 61 and had been ill for some time. Altogether Lawford, who eventually became naturalized as an American appeared in over 40 Hollywood films.

After starting in films as a child, he developed into a promising light comedian in the Cary Grant tradition. But as he got older, his career failed to develop and he was seen more and more in small parts.

He was born in London on September 7, 1923 the son of Lieutenant-General Sir Sidney Lawford, and made his film debut only eight years later in an early British talkie, *Poor Old Bill*. He was still a youngster when he went to Hollywood in 1938 but his easy style and dark good looks kept him in steady demand throughout the 1940s when his pictures included *Mrs Miniver*, *The White Cliffs of Dover*, *Easter Parade*, *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and *Little Women*.

In the following decade, when the slump came to Hollywood, Lawford ended his contract with MGM and turned to the medium which had largely provoked the slump, television. He appeared in two successful series, *Dear Phoebe* and *The Thin Man*, in which Lawford played Dashiell Hammett's famous private detective, Nick Charles.

Lawford gained wider fame through his marriage, in 1955, to Patricia Kennedy, sister of John F. Kennedy. During the 1960 presidential campaign, Lawford was active in support of his brother-in-law, persuading showbusiness personalities to support the Kennedy ticket and organizing many fund-raising rallies.

At this time, too, he became a member of the Hollywood "clan", a group of entertainers which included Frank Sinatra (with whom Lawford had made a film back in 1942), Dean Martin and Sammy Davis junior. The clan set up, and appeared in, two popular films, *Ocean's Eleven*, and *Sergeants Three*.

Lawford's later films included *Exodus*, *Advise and Consent*, and *Skidoo* (all for Otto Preminger), *Harlow*, *Buona Sera Mrs Campbell* and *Salt and Pepper*.

In the later part of his life, Lawford had experienced serious problems with alcohol.

His marriage to Patricia Kennedy, which produced four children, ended in divorce in 1966. His second wife was Mary Rowan, daughter of the comedian Dan Rowan, and he married for the third time this year.

He took American citizenship in 1960.

SIR STEWART MacTIER

J N N writes

Stewart MacTier, who died recently in Australia, was born and bred with a powerful sense of obligation which inspired exceptional service to his country and to the shipping industry.

Educated at Eton and Magdalene College Cambridge, where he read Mechanical Engineering, he joined Alfred Holt & Co. (now Ocean), the Liverpool shipowners: after a brief spell as a sea-going engineer and a few years in their main Far Eastern agency, managers of Singapore's Straits Steamship Company, he was moved to London as a director of Glen Line which Holts were resuscitating from the wreckage of Lord Kylsant's Royal Mail.

During the Second World War he directed the Ministry of War Transport's Port & Transit Control which was ultimately responsible for the astonishingly effective working of British and many overseas ports: he later became the senior merchant shipping adviser at SHAEF, which brought him his appointment as CBE and American and French decorations.

Then followed a similar and equally successful assignment with Lord Killearn, the Commissioner-General in South East Asia, where post-war prosperity depended on the restoration of shattered port and shipping services. In this period he had a hand in the formation of Malayan Airways, the forerunner of Singapore International Airlines and Malaysian Airways systems.

He returned to Holts' parent board and, at the head of a fine team, he initiated numerous technical innovations, culminating in the construction for Overseas Containers of the first purpose-built container ships, which was among the largest and bravest industrial ventures of our times. He was a valued member of the Admiralty's Shipping Defence Advisory Committee and in 1960/61 chairman of the then General Council of British Shipping which, under his leadership, produced a farsighted report on the industry's problems.

He was respected as a clear thinker of total integrity and natural authority, always looking ahead and ready to demolish outdated concepts, while his warm and unselfish character won him widespread affection.

COLONEL BERNARD BOOTH

Colonel Bernard Booth who died in Stoke Mandeville Hospital on Christmas Eve, was one of the many grandchildren of the Salvation Army's founder.

Bernard Bramwell Booth, had a lifetime of service in the Salvation Army. After completing his time at the training college he held posts in this country for some years until he took up duties at International Headquarters.

Subsequently he was in charge of the Army's trading organization, known as the Salvationist Publishing and Supplies Ltd.

Later he was staff secretary of the Salvation Army Assurance Society Ltd, at its London headquarters.

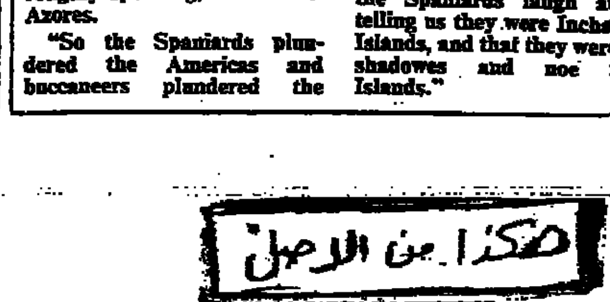
He was a man of earnest faith and untiring energy, with a considerable capacity for organization.

He married in 1921, Captain Jane Lowther.

Mrs Margrethe Bohr, who died on December 21 at the age of 94, was the widow of Neils Bohr, the nuclear physcist who won the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1922, and mother of Aage Bohr, who shared the same prize in 1975.

Colonel Carrique Edgar Lewin-Harris, OBE, who died on December 13 at the age of 85, was appointed Deputy Lieutenant of Somerset in 1957.





THE ARTS

Photographs by Donald Cooper



John Savident (left) and Graeme Garden in *A Little Hotel on the Side*: "the finest farce production seen in London for eighteen years"

Irving Wardle assesses the theatrical year

Successful pain-killers

Hardly had the new year dawned than my local off-licence greeted it with a morale-boosting window display; "1984" it said in spooky Gothic lettering eighteen inches high, rudely answered from below by an *Andy Capp figure*, pointing out the plenteous stock of pain-killers on sale inside, and blowing a large raspberry-hued bubble: "Come off it Orwell!".

That is one way of characterizing the past year's theatrical binge: its jubilant showmen awash in dollars, and the sound of civic strife drowned in the merry clicking of turnstiles as those who can afford it shell out on the latest piece of mindless American pap. However, if there is one thing I have learnt in this job, it is not to expect any direct feed-back from the nation to the national stage. The most topical plays of the year were Dario Fo's *Trumpets and*



Jeffrey Daniel and Voyd in *Starlight Express*: "pushed the environmental musical beyond previous boundaries"

Raspberries and *Coriolanus* – neither conspicuously indebted to the findings of any Insight team. While if any show fell flat on *its* premises it was G. F. Newman's intended exposure of governmental corruption in *An Honourable Profession*.

As for the top-ranking pain-*killers*, *imported* or home-brewed, they have been a good deal better than we had any right to expect. *42nd Street*, cynical rehash as it may be, was a consummate piece of stage-craft that restored the shaky fortunes of Drury Lane. Likewise *On Your Toes*, which also dispelled all notions of Broadway philistinism in a glorious *alliance between the Ballets* Russes and the tap revolution.

Among the native products, *Starlight Express* – millionaire's folly as it seemed to some – pushed the environmental musical beyond previous boundaries and set a new standard for the integration of music and subject-matter. And even Melvyn Bragg's dourly prosaic *The Hired Man* launched Howard Goodall as a dazzingly gifted recruit to the British musical stage.

Musicals aside, the Theatre of Comedy opened the year with a deservedly award-winning *See How They Run* and closed it with a fine taboo-breaking sequel, *Two Into One* (which dared to crack jokes about homosexuals and squint-eyed Chinese). Tom Stoppard bravely risked a totally frivolous event in *Rough Crossing*, for which he was ungratefully clobbered by my esteemed colleagues; and, with Feydeau's *A Little Hotel on the Side*, Jonathan Lynn made his National Theatre début by *directing the finest farce* production seen in London since Jacques Charon launched the farce revival with *A Flea in Her Ear* eighteen years ago.

Even *The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole* – visible from long distance as a best-selling rip-off (when are Sue Townsend's original plays going to activate the managerial chequebooks?) – proved to be a thoroughbred piece of comic workmanship with the resolutely down-market vitality of a seaside postcard.

It is only when you look below the thoroughbred level that doubts start setting in. I cannot recall a year when comedy reached such a saturation point, and when all lines of resistance gave way to the slogan of Fun at Any Price. One can suggest deepening British gloom or the increasingly *buoyant dollar* as *glib* explanations for this. And you can see how an amiably slapdash entertainment like Richard Williams's *Stepping Out* chimes in with the present mood of parochial withdrawal. Likewise, I have to admit, the RSC revival of *The Happiest Days of Your Life*. But who in their right minds can ever have decided it was worth splashing out on hopelessly unworkable pieces like the Old Vic revival of *Big in Brazil* (already a proven flop) and the unspeakable *Top People*?

Meanwhile, the loudly acclaimed flow of fringe discoveries into the commercial theatre has dried up. If the West End was short of good new comedies, these were readily available from places like the (now doomed) Gate at the Latchmere and the Bush. But as yet there seem to have been no offers for Sharman McDonald's *When I Was a Girl I Used to Scream and Shout*, the most promising comic début of the year, and Brian Thompson's marvellous *Turning Over*.

Looking at the new play market in general, one is less struck by what is there than by what is missing. There has been a deafening silence from the top end of the profession, broken only by Michael Frayn's muted *Benefactors* (suggesting one of his old Miscellany pieces, minus the jokes), and Harold Pinter's modest début in the political field with *One for the Road* (joined, amazingly, by Beckett in *Catastrophe*). Otherwise not only has the "decline of England" play vanished from the scene, but also any thoughtful treatments of the here and now (Ireland, thanks to Ron Hutchinson and Seamus Finnegan, is another matter). Instead, the focus of new writing has shifted to other times and other places.

Following David Pownall's *Master Class*, Charles Wood (*Red Star*), Michael Wilcox (*The 78 Revolution*) and Stephen Poliakoff (*Breaking the Silence*) explored other lunacies of intellectual survival in the Soviet past, capped by even crazier goings-on in the British wartime Secret Service in Nicholas Wright's *The Desert Air*. Ronald Harwood's *Tramway Road* dealt a blow against British self-righteousness by involving a pair of emigré little Englanders in the birth of apartheid. Howard Brenton lined up Castlereigh's Britain with Thatcher's through the lives of those better known exiles, Shelley and Byron, in *Bloody Poetry*: a biographically accurate and blazingly personal reconstruction that gets my vote for the year's best play.

With work as good as Michael Hastings's *Tom and Viv* (a sharp dramatic foretaste of Peter Ackroyd's biography of *T. S. Eliot) also on the scene*, you cannot draw any qualitative distinction between plays that embrace the past as a means of topical comment and those that evoke it for its own sake.

But, if there was one production that drove home the feminist cause with heart-gripping logic, it was Pam Gems's reworking of *Camille* (at Stratford's *Other Place*), which incidentally revealed Frances Barber as a star whom I can only compare to the young Vanessa Redgrave; anyone with a long enough memory might start invoking Duse.

Redgrave herself made a notable return in *The Aspern Papers*; joining Maureen Lipman, Ann Mitchell, Sheila Gish and Julie Walters in a vintage year for female performances. Among them, the Amazonian standard-bearer is surely Glenda Jackson, who twice descended on London to slake



Fiona Shaw and Valentine Pelka in *Bloody Poetry*: "the year's best play"

her appetite on the giant heroines of O'Neill and Racine, which, without her, would have remained unseen. Rarely has personal ambition delivered such public service.

The appearance of Jackson's *Strange Interlude* at the Duke of York's, and the long-overdue British première of Sartre's *The Devil and the Good Lord* at the Lyric, Hammersmith, highlight the defection of our two main companies – and particularly the RSC – from the international repertory. By rights, we should be seeing such plays at the Olivier and the Barbican, instead of relying on the whim of independent managements, or outlying repertory theatres (*like Watford*, which brought in the latest Dario Fo). As it is, the topical withdrawal of playwrights has been matched by increasing insularity of the classical directorate. One can forgive the National Theatre almost anything for the Christopher Morahan-Michael Frayn version of Chekhov's *Wild Honey*. But when are continental stagecraft and a sense of the full European tradition going to transfigure that house again?

Sir Michael Tippett, Britain's senior major composer, will be 80 next Wednesday; nowadays he is widely admired and respected, but his public and private paths were not always so smooth, as he tells Nicholas Kenyon

A musical mind ever in vigorous quest

"Hello, love. Come in, come in. You'll have to help me sort out these scores and find the cassettes. What's in that plastic bag? No, that's Bill's new pair of slippers. That one . . . here's a cassette. The Police. No, that was *Desert Island Discs* yesterday (heavens, he's dreary, isn't he). Here we are, this is what I need for America: Corelli, Fourth Symphony . . . where's the Suite in D? Hang on a minute while I ring Sally..."

Dropping in on Sir Michael Tippett a couple of days before he leaves for America to celebrate his eightieth birthday is like being plunged into one of his first movements: elaborate rhythmic counterpoint, dislocating syncopations and a bustling energy which (both in his music and his life) would not disgrace a man half his age. Tippett's eyesight may be failing, but he retains an electric interest in the world around him and a quite unabashed enthusiasm for the public success which is now his. (That is surely why he has accepted invitations to be fêted in Houston on his birthday, and then to travel to Dallas and Los Angeles. London will have to wait to celebrate him on the South Bank in the last week of January, with a further major Tippett Festival at the Royal Academy of Music at the end of February.)

But beyond the exuberant chaos of plastic bags, through the huge picture window of Tippett's Wiltshire home, there is a vista of uninterrupted peace: a slope of the downs near Chippenham with not a building in sight, across which struts the occasional pheasant. Behind Tippett's activity there has always been a profoundly reflective, questing mind. We have come to know over the years a great deal about what he thinks and feels, but surprisingly little about what he is, and where he has come from. Now that has changed with the publication of Ian Kemp's major new biography, *Tippett: The Composer and His Music* (Eulenberg, £21), which in addition to substantial stylistic analyses of all Tippett's works, except the most recent, provides for the first time a really detailed biography, full of personal revelations. So it was this I wanted to ask Tippett about, starting with the unpleasant story of homosexuality in his Scottish boarding school, Fettes.

"This has come out in Ian's book now; for a long time I didn't want anything said about it. It was a real scandal that they could put a boy in such a position. I'd let my mother know in my letters that the sex she was terrified of was rampant, telling her more explicity than I realized. I remember almost the whole school was in the sanatorium with some epidemic, *and my parents floated in from the* south of France. What the hell were they doing there? They'd come to threaten the headmaster! Expose him to the press. Marvellous. But it didn't help the son: I was expected to tell all I knew. Besides, I wasn't innocent! The next term was horrible, cubicle walls

Photograph of Sir Michael Tippett by Malcolm Crowthers



had been torn down, all that sort of thing. I had to leave . . .

"At *grammar school [Stamford]* I was much happier, but my atheistic views didn't go down well. I was thought to be intellectually disruptive! Headmasters are very odd people. He thought I should be reading the sermons of Bishop Gore. I was reading Shaw, Wells. Music was more difficult. Malcolm Sargent had been there and I learnt the piano with his teacher, Mrs Tinkler. I do remember some early things *like* the Mozart *G* minor Symphony, and, even before that, a boy with a pipe singing 'Over the sea to Skye'. Not even a real folksong, but terribly moving.

"My parents didn't know what was to be done about my becoming a musician. They were very odd, looking back on it. Even Sargent didn't encourage it. Said I had no particular ability as far as he was concerned. Well, I don't mind that . . . I was a clever boy and they thought I could go into law and make the family fortune. My father had been at Oxford and studied law: that was the only way through as far as he could see. But they found out about the Royal College of Music and so I went there."

Was he always a rebellious person? "In a sense yes. I had a very early *adolescence – ten or eleven! Oh dear!* [buries head in hands] I was playing havoc with the family. But I grew out of it; I always looked at myself and said 'Christ!' And that went on; I grew up intellectually very quickly – you can hardly believe how lively one was and yet how ignorant." And was he always self-critical? "Yes, because the motivation to learn was very strong and that *always succeeded in adjusting things.* I'll tell you about the College. They were a dreary lot, they thought you could write harmony exercises at the back of the room while the orchestra rehearsed.

"I had lots of opinions. Beethoven was already important but Mozart not. But I knew I had everything to learn and I went slowly. I stood and watched all Boult's rehearsals (I got known as '*Boult's darling', but it didn't worry me, I just went on)* and he brought me right up to the podium and let me follow his scores. I wasn't actually watching him conduct, I was listening to the sound. I knew quite early I had an ear for texture."

Success did not come to Tippett at all easily, and when asked about this he slips into the present tense as if it was all still happening: "Constant Lambert was the glamorous figure, you see. He had everything. (Didn't get him very far! No, I don't mean that.) Now he leaves College a year ahead of me, has a ballet commissioned. I consciously then take *a decision* to go the other way. I'll keep right out of that until I have learnt everything I need to learn."

That accounted for his return to study with R. O. Morris after his College days were over, in order to improve his counterpoint.

Through the 1930s Tippett struggled, teaching and writing in Oxted, becoming engrossed in more or less left-wing activities, in particular conducting an orchestra of unemployed musicians at Morley College. ("I got them to play what I wanted to learn"), where after the war he became Director of Music. "There were only four or five professional performances of my works. But somehow I knew that I wasn't going to be myself until I was forty. And it happened with *Child of Our Time*". Wasn't he jealous of the successes he saw around him? "Oh, Britten was doing well with the Piano Concerto because he was a brilliant player; like Stravinsky, he appeared a lot. But I was really not affected by it.

"I'll tell you one thing which doesn't come out in Ian's account, which is that when Ben came back from America we were really very close for a while – until *Peter Grimes*, and then he flew off into the clouds and became rather difficult to talk to. But we used to discuss all the things we would do and I remember Ben saying that the only real thing was opera, and so he wrote *Grimes* and formed the company and so on. I couldn't go along with that. I had to say that I wanted always to work in a variety of forms, not just operas, not just symphonies.

"Well, symphonies were a problem. That was what we were expected to do. Vaughan Williams was doing it, and there was Rubbra as his great successor, and there was old Arnold Bax – at the College we used to say 'Arnold's in symphony again' – and they all came out very impressive and they never *did* anything, they were all the same [shrieks with laughter].

"*I was always on the outside of the* fashionable circle. There they all were, Walton, in a bad way after the war, Cecil Gray, Rawsthorne, a few others; oh, they could be pretty silly at times. After Walton got married, and he heard that they might make Ben music director at Covent Garden, we were summoned to a lunch or something and he got up and started going on about 'keeping the buggers out of Covent Garden'. People are funny, aren't they? But I wasn't at the centre of that world, you see. I couldn't have been any use to them so I had no status in it. And I was never disturbed by it."

Looking back on it, the turning point for Tippett came when conductors arrived who understood his music. "Sargent tried. But, oh God, I remember at a rehearsal a trombonist asking him if some clash was right and he asked me so I said, yes, it's right, it's just like 'Lasciatemi morire'. Sargent didn't have a clue what I was talking about. Nowadays conductors like Andrew Parrott and Nick Cleobury know their Monteverdi and Purcell; it's in their blood."

Tippett's stories are endless: they look more malicious in print than they sound when accompanied by giggles and grimaces. Now he has found the perfect interpreter in Colin Davis ("We are very close: the relationship is magical, so that sometimes we hardly dare speak") and his music is accepted and loved internationally; there are no grudges against the past, just surprise that it all could have happened to him.

Television over the Christmas holiday

Contrasting tales of two tenors

An unexpected pleasure of this season was the sound of Luciano Pavarotti singing "O sole mio", the ballad now forever appropriated by the commercials for Walls ice-cream. *Christmas television is* indeed very much like a Cornetto; that which should be crisp is usually soggy, and that which should be creamy is often merely glutinous.

***Pavarotti at Madison Square* Garden** (Boxing Day, BBC 2) was a case in point – co-produced by Arena and WNET, the American recording of the tenor's appearance before an audience of 20,000 this summer was a dull waste of the occasion. A little touch of Woodstock would have relieved what was otherwise a respectful, monochrome succession of arias and curtain calls. Only the British-made interview sandwiched between the two halves of the event added context to it. *Tantalizing* glimpses of the rapturous, multi-ethnic audience left us to guess its significance to New Yorkers.

Pavarotti was cautiously described as *"for many*, the world's greatest tenor". On Christmas Eve it was the turn of Placido Domingo, billed more modestly as "the busiest singer *in history*". For **Placido**, a year in the *life* of this great tenor (Channel 4), the producer-director Revel Guest followed him to a dozen cities and gave us a satisfying, relaxed hagiography which could rely on Domingo's powerful performances and personal charm to counteract numerous shots of large jets ascending into sunsets.

This was a skilful compilation including scenes from *nine operas, a masterclass in* Northampton and a priceless American show with the comedienne Carol Burnett. In all this there was still time for a quiet insight into Domingo's art, in a sequence where he sat down at the piano to explore the role of Lohengrin.

What is it about the winter solstice which prompts television schedulers to regard every celebrity as a talisman which must be ritually visited to ward off evil ratings in the forthcoming 12 months? From Elton John to James Bond, from Marilyn Monroe to Paul Daniels, the sacred names are conjured to the screen to give their blessing. This year a massive tribute to Eric Morcambe, on *ITV* on *Christmas* Day, filled the sad new gap in the pantheon.

In this procession of behemoth images **That's Street Entertainment** (Boxing Day, Channel 4) was refreshingly human in its appeal. This was a celebration of the disparate talents who entertain Londoners and tourists on the cobbles of Covent Garden. There were singers (some of whom could sing in tune), dancers, roller-skaters, escapologists and those who entertained by their ridiculous nerve alone – like the man who assembled a crowd by *purportedly* preparing to dive into a half-pint of lager.

The winners of the buskers' annual festival were a deliciously clever pair of mimes *called* The Vicious Brothers. Somehow it was comforting to know that so much talent could still escape the glitzy trawl of television show-business.

Daisy Ashford's **The Young Visiters** (Channel 4) was carefully brought to the screen on the afternoon of Christmas Day by James Hill, who succeeded in conveying the acutely-observed if mis-spelt charm of this delicate piece. What could easily have been a confection of saccharine prettiness was saved by Tracey Ullman, whose *primly composed Victorian* miss had a wonderful undertone of spite.

There are some lines which are almost impossible for an *actor* to say with conviction. "Oh mum, there's a body in the library" is one of them, and to the credit of all concerned it was delivered with absolute success in last night's beginning of Agatha Christie's **Miss Marple** mystery (BBC1). In the title role Joan Hickson managed to convey "forensic intuition developed to the point of genius" in half-a-dozen lines; the director, Silvio Narizzano, applied the ivy-clad, cucumber sandwich kitsch with aplomb.

Celia Brayfield

Outworn ideas of appreciation

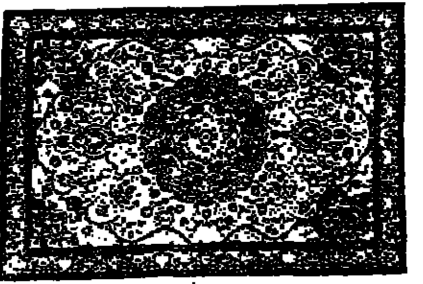
Christopher Nupen's **Sibelius**, shown on Channel 4 on Christmas Day, was in the grand tradition of television musical biography. It was eminently respectful; it was often very beautiful to look at; and it was deeply misleading. The problem is always the same. Television is about the union of sound and picture; music is about the divorce of sound from any visual image but that of musicians performing. To show us misty sunsets over Finnish lakes and forests while we are hearing Sibelius's Fourth Symphony is to go back to notions of musical appreciation that died out in written criticism about a century ago.

But Mr Nupen went further. Besides the pictures we also had a voice reading extracts from Sibelius's correspondence speaking of his difficulties with this work, which is a bit like being shown photographs from the abattoir while one is enjoying a meal. Of course Sibelius was influenced by the landscape of Finland, and of course it was a struggle for him to get his works right. But the equations are a lot more complex than this film proposed. One needs to be offered some evidence, as certainly exists in the case of the Fifth Symphony, of just what Sibelius's problems were and how, in succeeding versions, he tackled them. Television is precisely the medium in which such a discussion might take place.

This, however, was not Mr Nupen's purpose. What we had were the facts of Sibelius's life illustrated with landscapes and the greatest hits fervently conducted by Vladimir Ashkenazy. Elisabeth Söderström also popped up to sing a couple of songs, without so much as a subtitle. Oh, and there were critical judgements on a breath-taking level of impertinence. The Violin Concerto, one was pleased to learn, does not live up to its opening, and the Third Symphony is the first Sibelius wrote that is "worthy throughout of his genius".

No musicians or critics appeared to voice opinions that might conceivably have been a little more interesting, nor were we allowed to see anyone who might have offered first-hand recollections of Sibelius. Indeed, when it went out of the orchestra-choked studio, Nupen's film was curiously lacking in human figures, other than that of the composer *himself in photographs* and archive footage. It was just the forests, the lakes, the snow, the dull, didactic commentary and all those symphonies.

Paul Griffiths





THE TIMES *Portfolio*

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page.

If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Your gain or loss
	ELECTRICALS	
1	Thorn EMI	
2	Racal Elect	
3	Eurotherm	
4	Wholesale Fitting	
5	Kode	
6	STC	
7	VG Instruments	
8	ICL	
9	Oxford Instruments	
10	Cambridge Elec	
	INDUSTRIALS L–R	
11	Powell Duffryn	
12	Metal Box	
13	Redfearn Glass	
14	Pentland Ind	
15	Reed Int	
16	LRC	
17	Lee (Arthur)	
18	McKechnie	
19	Moss (Robert)	
20	Rank Org	
	INDUSTRIALS A–D	
21	Delta	
22	Br Syphon	
23	BTR	
24	Br Vita	
25	Benlox	
26	Bath & Portland	
27	Diploma	
28	BBA	
29	Carclo Eng	
30	Beecham	
	DRAPERY AND STORES	
31	Bremner	
32	Goldberg (A)	
33	House of Fraser	
34	Dixons	
35	Home Charm	
36	Hepworth (J)	
37	Br Home Stores	
38	Empire Stores	
39	Ward White	
40	Freemans	
© Times Newspapers Limited	Your Daily Total	

Because of non-publication days, there will be no £20,000 weekly prize for Saturday, December 29. However, the £2,000 daily prize will continue on the days of publication.

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Quiet trading

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 24. Dealings End, Jan 11. § Contango Day, Jan 14. Settlement Day, Jan 21.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

THE TIMES *Portfolio*
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DAILY DIVIDEND
£2,000
Claims required for
+40 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

BREWERIES

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

BUILDING AND ROADS

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

CINEMAS AND TV

DRAPERY AND STORES

ELECTRICALS

FINANCE AND LAND

FOODS

HOTELS AND CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS A–D

E–K

L–R

S–Z

INSURANCE

LEISURE

MINING

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

OIL

OVERSEAS TRADERS

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

PROPERTY

SHIPPING

SHOES AND LEATHER

TEXTILES

TOBACCOS

WALL STREET

	Dec 24	Dec 21		Dec 24	Dec 21		Dec 24	Dec 21
AMF Inc	14¼	14	Exxon Corp	44¼	43⅞	Philip Morris	80⅞	79½
AMR	38	38¾	Fed Dept Stores	50⅝	50¼	Phillips Petrol	45½	55
Allied Corp	34¾	34⅝	Firestone	17⅛	18⅛	Polaroid	27⅞	27¾
Allied Stores	50¼	50½	Fst Chicago	21¼	21	PPG Ind	32⅞	32⅝
Allis Chalmers	5⅜	5½	Fst Intrst Bncp	42¼	41	Proctor Gamble	56½	56¼
Alcoa	35⅞	35¾	Fst Penn Corp	6⅝	6	Pub Ser El & Gas	26	26⅛
Amax Inc	15¾	15½	Ford	45¼	44⅝	Raytheon	41	40⅝
Amerada Hess	24¼	24½	GAF Corp	24⅝	24¾	RCA Corp	35⅞	35½
Am Brands	63¾	63½	GTE Corp	40¼	39⅞	Reynolds Ind	71¼	70⅝
Am Broadcast	63¼	62⅞	Gen Corp	32⅞	33	Reynolds Metal	34½	34½
Am Can	49⅞	50	Gen Dynamics	67⅞	68	Rockwell Int	30¼	29⅝
Am Cyanamid	48¼	47⅞	Gen Electric	57⅛	56¼	Royal Dutch	47¾	47¼
Am Elec Power	21	21	Gen Foods	58¼	58	Safeways	28¼	28⅝
Am Home	51½	51	Gen Mills	50⅝	50¾	SFE Sopac	25⅝	25¼
Am Motors	3½	3⅝	Gen Motors	78	77⅞	SCM	42½	43⅞
Am Nat Res	38½	38¼	Gen Pub Util NY	11⅛	11⅛	Schlumberger	37¼	37⅜
Am Standard	30¾	30½	Genesco	5⅝	5⅝	Scott Paper	34⅝	34½
Am Telephone	19½	19⅝	Georgia Pacific	24½	24	Seagram	39¾	38⅝
Armco Steel	8⅝	8⅝	Gillette	57⅞	57⅜	Sears Roebuck	32	31⅝
Asarco	19⅞	19⅞	Goodrich	26¾	26¾	Shell Oil	56¼	58½
Ashland Oil	24½	24⅝	Goodyear	26⅝	26¼	Shell Trans	30⅝	29⅝
Atlantic Richfield	43⅝	43¼	Gould Inc	20⅞	20⅞	Signal Co	32½	32½
Avco	48¾	48⅞	Grace	39⅞	39⅝	Singer	30⅛	29¾
Avon Products	21¾	21¼	Gt Atlic & Pacific	15¾	15¼	Smithkline Beck	52¾	53½
Bankers Tst NY	55½	54¾	Greyhound	23⅞	23⅞	Sony	14⅛	14⅝
Bank of America	18⅝	18⅝	Grumman Corp	25½	25¼	Sth Cal Edison	28¾	23½
Bank of Boston	39⅝	39⅞	Gulf & West	29	28¾	Sperry Corp	40½	40⅝
Bank of NY	36¼	35	Heinz H. J.	42⅞	43¼	Std Oil Indiana	58½	58⅝
Beatrice Foods	29¾	30	Hercules	33⅝	33¼	Std Oil Ohio	41⅝	40⅞
Bethlehem Steel	17¼	17	Honeywell	62¼	61⅝	Sterling Drug	27⅞	27⅞
Boeing	58⅝	55½	IC Inds	27⅝	27¼	Stevens J. P.	17⅛	17
Boise Cascade	40½	39⅝	Ingersoll	43⅝	43⅝	Sun Comp	47¼	48⅞
Borden	63¾	63⅝	Inland Steel	21⅝	21½	Teledyne	253¾	252¼
Borg Warner	20⅞	20½	IBM	124¼	123	Tenneco	36¼	36
Bristol Myers	52½	50⅞	Int Harvester	8½	8¼	Texaco	34½	35⅝
BP	22	22¼	INCO	12¼	11⅞	Texas East Corp	27	28¾
Burlington Ind	26	26⅛	Int Paper	53½	53¾	Texas Inst	117⅝	115½
Burlington Nthn	47¼	47¼	Int Tel Tel	28¾	29⅝	Texas Utilities	25⅞	25⅝
Burroughs	58¼	57½	Irving Bank	32⅛	32⅛	Textron	33	32⅞
Campbell Soup	69¼	69⅝	Jim Walter	31¼	31¾	TWA	30¼	30¾
Canadian Pacific	37⅜	37¾	Johnson & John	38¼	36¼	Travelers Corp	38⅝	37
Caterpillar	30⅞	29¼	Kaiser Alumin	13⅞	13¾	TRW Inc	71⅝	71
Celanese	78⅝	78½	Kerr McGee	27⅝	27	UAL Inc	44⅞	44½
Central Soya	22½	18¾	Kimberly Clark	47⅛	46½	Union Carbide	38½	37½
Champion	21⅝	20⅞	K Mart	35⅛	35¼	Unocal	36⅝	36⅝
Chase Manhat	47¾	47⅞	Kroger	39	38½	Un Pacific Corp	40⅝	39⅝
Chem Bank NY	34¼	33⅝	L.T.V. Corp	10⅛	10	Uniroyal	13⅞	13⅝
Chevron	31	30⅝	Litton	64½	64¾	United Brands	10⅝	10⅝
Chrysler	31⅛	30¾	Lockheed	42⅞	42⅝	US Steel	25¾	25½
Citicorp	39	38¾	Lucky Stores	17¾	17⅝	Utd Technol	37¾	37½
Clark Equip	25¼	24⅞	Manuf Hanover	36¾	35½	Wachovia	28½	28¼
Coca Cola	62½	62¼	Manville Cp	6	5⅞	Warner Lambert	35¾	35⅞
Colgate	24½	24½	Mapco	26½	26⅝	Wells Fargo	48	48
CBS	72⅝	72	Marine Midland	28⅝	27⅝	Westinghse Elec	28⅞	28⅝
Columbia Gas	32½	32½	Martin Marietta	43	43	Weyerhauser	30	29⅝
Combustion Eng	30⅝	30½	McDonnell	68⅞	68¼	Whirlpool	45¾	45⅝
Comwlth Edison	27½	28⅝	Mead	34½	34	Woolworth	36⅝	36⅝
Cons Edison	30⅝	30⅝	Merck	93	92	Xerox Corp	38⅛	37⅞
Cons Foods	33	33⅝	Minnesota Mng	79¾	78⅞	Zenith	20⅝	20⅝
Cons Power	4½	4⅝	Mobil Oil	28⅝	27⅞	**CANADIAN PRICES**		
Control Data	34	34⅝	Monsanto	43½	42⅝			
Corning Glass	65	66	Morgan J. P.	77½	77	Abitibi	33	33
CPC Intl	40⅝	40⅞	Motorola	35⅛	33¾	Alcan Alumin	37½	36⅞
Crane	34½	34⅛	NCR Corp	26⅝	25¾	Algoma Steel	18⅝	18⅛
Crocker Int	25⅝	25⅝	NL Industries	11	10¾	Bell Telephone	35⅝	35¼
Crown Zeller	34	34¼	Nabisco	52⅝	52	Can Pacific	50	49⅝
Dart & Kraft	84¼	84¼	Nat Distillers	25⅝	25⅝	Cominco	12¼	12¼
Deere	31⅝	29¾	Nat Med Ent	24⅛	23¾	Cons Bathurst	16¼	16
Delta Air	42¼	42	Norfolk South	58¾	58⅝	Gulf Oil	15¼	15⅝
Detroit Edison	16¼	15⅝	NW Bancorp	28¼	28½	Hawker/Sid Can	17	17
Digital Equip	111	109	Occidental Pet	27⅜	27½	Hudson Bay Mng	6¼	6¼
Disney	80¾	80⅞	Ogden	27⅝	27⅞	Imasco	47⅝	47⅝
Dow Chemical	27⅝	28¾	Olin Corp	30½	30⅞	Imperial Oil	42¼	42½
Dresser Ind	18¾	18⅝	Owens-Illinois	39⅝	39⅝	Int Pipe	34¾	34¾
Duke Power	29⅛	29	Pacific Gas Elec	16⅝	16⅝	Mass.-Fergsn	3.85	3.80
Du Pont	47⅞	47½	Pan Am	4⅝	4½	Royal Trustco	18¼	18⅝
Eastern Air	4¼	4¼	Penney J. C.	47	46¾	Seagram	50⅞	50⅞
Eastman Kodak	71⅝	70⅞	Pennzoil	44½	44⅝	Steel Co	20½	20½
Eaton Corp	51	51	Pepsico	41¾	41¾	Thomson N 'A'	51⅝	52
Emerson Elect	87⅝	87⅝	Pfizer	41⅞	40⅝	Walker Hiram	28⅝	28⅛
Evans Prod	3¾	3⅞	Phelps Dodge	13¾	13⅝	WCT	15⅛	15⅛

● Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Shares trim early losses

New York (AP-Dow Jones) – Wall Street shares were down slightly in early trading but later regained some of the ground lost at the opening. Trading was exceptionally light.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down by about two points to about 1208. Earlier, it was off by over three points.

Volume was thin with only about 13.7 million shares traded, Advances were running marginally behind declines.

While some analysts see the market booming in the New Year, Mr Edward Nicoski of Piper Jaffray and Hopwood says: "The answer as to whether a major upside explosion lies ahead is still unclear."

He added: "There are positives, namely the movement topside in both the Dow Jones transportation and utilities averages, as well as a meaningful expansion in the number of new highs. There is little doubt that dynamic topside potential does exist".

But he warns that the market needs volume to move out of its current doldrums, "It may take several 200 million-share, back-to-back days in order to achieve the second leg."

In yesterday's slow activity, IBM was trading unchanged at 124, General electric was of ⅛ at 57 and General Motors unchanged at 78.

Other stocks were also drifting. Procter & Gamble was up ⅛ at 56⅝, Merck was down ⅛ at 92⅞

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

FT Ind Ord ....926.0(+1.7)
FT-A All Share ....(N/A)
FT Govt Securities ....82.02(+0.12)
FT-SE 100 ....1205.2(+0.05)
Bargains ....(N/A)
Datastream USM ....103.40(+0.01)

New York
Dow Jones ....1208.48(−1.66)
Tokyo
Nikkei Dow ....11,439.87(−22.14)
Hong Kong:
Hang Seng ....1,206.83(+8.24)
Amsterdam: ....181.0(Unchanged)
Sidney: ....732.35(+3.5)
Frankfurt:
Commerzbank .1093.0(Unchanged)
Brussels:
General ....158.29(+0.79)
Paris: CAC ....181.4(+0.5)
Zurich:
SKA General ...319.30(Unchanged)

GOLD

London fixing:
am N/A pm N/A
close $313.00-314.00 (£266-267)
New York:
Comex $311.00

London figures relate to Monday's trading. There are no commodities figures because the markets were closed on Monday.

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:
Pineapple Dance ....90 +15
MJI Corp ....10½ +1½
Barbican ....3¾ +½
Benlox Hdgs ....35 +4
Intervis Vid Hdgs ....10 +1
Humberside Elect ....10 +1
Bristol Oil Mng ....25 +2
Select TV ....14 +1
Matthew Brown ....262 +18
Empire Stores ....98 +6
Reliant Motor ....49 +3
Wolverhampton L 33 +2
Weir Gp ....38 +2
ERF Hdgs ....39 +2
Hadson Pet Int ....40 +2
Dunton Gp ....20 +1
Stroud Riley ....61 +3
Hampton Gold ....163 +8
Central & Sheerwd 10½ +½
Bio-Isolates 43 +2

FALLS:
Good Relations ....237 −43
Metal Sciences ....13 −1
Microvitec ....98 −7
Immediate Bs Sys ....32 −2
Lon & Man Secs ....9½ −½

CURRENCIES

London:
£: $1.1750 (+0.0015)
£: DM 3.6710 (+0.0175)
£: SwFr 3.0240 (+0.0112)
£: FFr 11.2275 (+0.0425)
£: Yen 291.60 (+0.85)
£ Index: 73.6 (+0.4)
New York:
£: $1.1725
$: DM 3.1095
$ Index: 143.6 (+0.1)

INTEREST RATES

London:
Bank Base: 9¾-9½%
3-month Interbank 10-9⅞%
3-month elgible bills 9$\frac{9}{32}$-9⅛%
buying rate
US:
Prime Rate 10.75%
Federal Funds 7¾%
3-month Treasury Bills 7.74-7.70%
Long bond 103¼-103$\frac{5}{16}$%

APPOINTMENTS

G. Maunsell and Partners: Mr David Gregory joins the board on January 1.

Crittal Windows: Mr Michael Hill has been named marketing director.

Hardman Isherwood: Mr Ken Mabbutt has joined the board as sales director.

Westminster and Country Properties: Mr Raymond J. S. Palmer has succeeded Mr Peter M Barrington as deputy chairman.

Le Hane Consultants International (UK): Mr Anthony Frodsham has been made chairman.

Ravendale Group: Mr Martin Hodson has been appointed an independent consultant.

Hays Allan: Mr Bernard Watson and Mr Robert Pethick, become partners from January 1.

Taylor Woodrow: Mr J Topping will become a joint deputy chairman from January 1.

Traverse-Healy & Regester: Mr David F Owen and Mrs Heather Rowe have been appointed associate directors of the financial and corporate public relations consultancy.

Ariston: Mr Alan Laken has become chairman and Mr Giuliano Gnagnatti managing director.

Hoover: Mr Harry Hill has been made managing director.

Wigfalls: Mr Thomas Cole has succeeded Mr Richard W. Morrell as managing director.

Shell UK: Mr Anthony Vicars-Miles has been named a director.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Interbank rates opened at about 9–8⅞ per cent on Monday, but soon came off to 8½–8 per cent.

There was a dip to around 7 per cent towards the mid-morning, but the closing minutes saw a firming to closing levels a about 9 per cent.

The periods showed little change in rates. Interbank term-deposits saw some activity in the area of the threes and sixes, but Sterling certificates of deposit were more or less inactive throughout.

Local authorities showed no interest.

Eurodollar deposits found little business to disturb rates from pre-weekend levels, the cut in the Fed's discount rate having been well allowed for.

Base Rates %
Clearing Banks 9¾-9½
Finance House 10½

Discount Market Loans%
Overnight: High 9 Low 7
Week fixed: 8¾

Treasury Bills (Discount %)
Buying: 2 months 9$\frac{9}{32}$; 3 months 8⅞
Selling: 2 months 9¼; 3 months 9$\frac{1}{16}$

Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)
1 month 9⅜-9¼; 2 months 9$\frac{9}{32}$-9¼
3 months 9$\frac{9}{32}$-9⅛; 6 months 9⅞-9¾

Trade Bills (Discount %)
1 month 10; 2 months 9$\frac{25}{32}$
3 months 9$\frac{25}{32}$; 6 months 10⅛

Interbank (%)
Overnight: open 9⅞-9¼ close 10-9⅞
1 week 9-8¾; 6 months 10⅛-10
1 month 9⅞-9½; 9 months 10¼-10⅛
3 months 10-9⅞; 12 months 10⅜-10¼

Local Authority Deposits (%)
2 days 9½; 7 days 9½
1 month 9½; 3 months 9⅞
6 months 10; 12 months 10

Local Authority Bonds (%)
1 month 10⅛-9⅞; 2 months 10¼-9⅞
3 months 10⅛-9⅞; 6 months 10½-9¾
9 months 10⅜-10; 12 months 10¼-9⅞

Sterling CDs (%)
1 month 9$\frac{5}{16}$-9$\frac{7}{16}$; 3 months 9$\frac{13}{16}$-9$\frac{11}{16}$
6 months 9⅞-9¾; 12 months 9$\frac{15}{16}$-9$\frac{13}{16}$

Dollar CDs (%)
1 month 8.35-8.25; 3 months 8.50-8.40
6 months 8.90-8.80; 12 months 9.70-9.50

EURO-CURRENCY DEPOSITS %

Dollar: 7 days 8$\frac{11}{16}$-8$\frac{7}{16}$; call 8¼-7¼; 3 months n.a.; 1 month n.a.; 6 months n.a.
Deutschmark: 7 days 5⅝-5⅛; call 5⅞-4⅞; 3 months 5⅝-5½; 1 month 5⅝-5⅜; 6 months n.a.
French Franc: 7 days 10⅜-10⅛; call 11-10; 3 months 10⅜-10⅛; 1 month 10⅜-10⅛; 6 months 11⅛-11
Swiss Franc: 7 days 6-5; call 1½-½; 3 months 5⅛-5; 1 month 5⅛-5; 6 months 5-4⅞
Yen: 7 days 6$\frac{7}{16}$-6$\frac{5}{16}$; call 6¼-5¾; 3 months 6$\frac{5}{16}$-6$\frac{3}{16}$; 1 month 6$\frac{7}{16}$-6$\frac{5}{16}$; 6 months 6$\frac{5}{16}$-6$\frac{3}{16}$

GOLD

Krugerrand* (per coin):
$322-323.50 (£274-275.50)
Sovereigns* (new):
$73.50-74.50 (£62.50-63.50)
*Excludes VAT

ECGD

Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period 3 November, 1984 to 4 December, 1984, inclusive: 9.904 per cent.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Quiet trading conditions prevailed on foreign exchange markets on Monday, with dealers simply squaring up positions ahead of the holiday break.

What activity there was, was in the dollar – mark position where the West German currency was lightly offered at 3.1200 (3.1 150).

The pound was aldo easier in dollar terms – 10 points down at 1.1725, although its trade-wighted index improved to 73.4 from 73.2 at Friday's close.

Against the Mark, the pound made half a pfennig at 3.6570.

Operators were not expecting to see much business

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

	Market rates day's range December 24	Market rates close December 24	1 month	3 months
New York	n.a.$	$1.1740-1.1760	0.14-0.09c prem	0.36-0.29c prem
Montreal	n.a.$	$1.5450-1.5488	par-0.14c disc	par-0.19c disc
Amsterdam	n.a.fl	4.1342-4.1530fl	1½-1¼c prem	4½-4c prem
Brussels	n.a.f	73.54-73.79f	4-14c disc	9.23c disc
Copenhagen	n.a.k	13.1200-13.1500k	2½-3½ore disc	5¼-6¼ore disc
Dublin	n.a.p	1.1751-1.1792p	44-62p disc	134-157p disc
Frankfurt	n.a.m	3.6660-3.6758m	1⅜-1¼pf prem	4-3¾pf prem
Lisbon	n.a.e	196.81-198.32e	175-580e disc	515-1640e disc
Madrid	n.a.p	201.51-203.02p	43-60p disc	125-150p disc
Milan	n.a.lr	2259.74-2289.47lr	7-11lr disc	22-30lr disc
Oslo	n.a.k	10.6103-10.6401k	2¾-3¾ore disc	7⅜-8¼ore disc
Paris	n.a.f	11.2025-11.2543f	¾-1¾c disc	1¾-2⅞c disc
Stockholm	n.a.k	10.4751-10.5047k	1⅜-2ore disc	4⅜-5ore disc
Tokyo	n.a.y	291.26-291.89y	1-⅞y prem	2⅝-2¼y prem
Vienna	n.a.sch	25.75-25.80sch	5¼-3gro prem	15¾-10½ gro prem
Zurich	n.a.f	3.0173-3.0298f	1⅜-1¼c prem	3¾-3⅜c prem

Sterling index compared with 1975 was down 0.0 at 00.0 (day's range 00.0-00.0).

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina peso*	199.36-200.05
Australia dollar	1.4043-1.4096
Bahrain dinar	0.4395-0.4415
Brazil cruzeiro*	3567.09-3583.86
Cyprus pound	0.7415-0.7515
Finland marka	7.5950-7.6350
Greece drachma	148.70-150.70
Hongkong dollar	9.1847-9.2142
India rupee	13.42-14.42
Iraq dinar	n.a.
Kuwait dinar (KD)	0.3535-0.3575
Malaysia dollar	2.8357-2.8466
Mexico peso	250-275
New Zealand dollar	2.4407-2.4521
Saudi Arabia riyal	4.1640-4.2040
Singapore dollar	2.5511-2.5612
South Africa rand	2.2880-2.3029
United Arab Emirates dirham	4.2845-4.3248

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	0.9985-1.0005
Singapore	2.1730-2.1760
Malaysia	2.4155-2.4185
Australia	0.8350-0.8360
Canada	1.3157-1.3167
Sweden	8.8700-8.8884
Norway	9.0000-9.0905
Denmark	11.13-11.21
West Germany	3.1130-3.1150
Switzerland	2.5620-2.5670
Netherlands	3.5150-3.5200
France	9.5200-9.5300
Japan	247.70-247.90
Italy	1912-1917
Belgium(Comm)	62.50-62.60
Hong Kong	7.8235-7.8265
Portugal	167.40-168.40
Spain	171.85-172.35
Austria	21.88-21.93

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEX and Extel. *Lloyds Bank International.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Three Month Sterling					
Mar 85	89.99	90.04	89.99	90.00	31
Jun 85	NT			89.94	0
Sep 85	NT			89.78	0
Dec 85	NT			89.58	0
Mar 86	NT			89.46	
Previous day's total open interest					
Three Month Eurodollar					
Mar 85	90.65	90.70	90.65	90.68	451
Jun 85	90.09	90.11	90.09	90.12	10
Sep 85	89.62	89.62	89.51	89.63	10
Dec 85	89.22	89.22	89.22	89.22	1
Mar 86	88.85	88.85	88.85	88.85	1
Previous day's total open interest 5381					
US Treasury Bond					
Mar 85	72-11	72-15	72-10	72-15	54
Jun 85	NT			71-24	
Sep 85	NT			71-24	
Dec 85	NT				
Previous day's total open interest 1276					
Long Gilt					
Dec 84	107-24	107-24	107-24	107-24	26
Mar 85	107-12	107-12	107-07	107-09	182
Jun 85	106-22	106-22	106-22	106-21	50
Sep 85	NT			109-14	
Dec 85	NT			109-02	
Previous day's total open interest					
FT-SE 100					
Dec 84	120.80	120.90	120.70	120.75	6
Mar 85	120.80	121.10	120.80	121.10	12
Jun 85	NT			121.16	0
Previous day's total open interest 1089					

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1984 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1984 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

AUTHORIZED UNIT TRUSTS

1983/84 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]					

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Guinness and M Brown sparkle in breweries

By Derek Pain

It was cheers – for entirely different reasons – for two brewery shares as the stock market played out its half-day Christmas Eve ritual on Monday. With only a sprinkling of brokers and jobbers bothering to put in an appearance, trading was exceedingly thin and only the occasional share stirred from its slumbers.

But the brewery pitch was quite active. **Arthur Guinness and Sons** jumped 10p to 213p as the market warmed to its increased involvement in the convenience stores business through its near-£12 million acquisition of Neighbourhood Stores.

The brewing group, which came to grief in its last diversification exercise, now appears to have identified the convenience stores business and health resorts as the main areas for its current bout of expansion.

Hichens, Harrison and Co, the stockbroker, has placed 300,000 shares at 115p each in Crusts, the restaurants and wine bars group. The proceeds will go towards the £750,000 acquisition of three restaurants. The company, which is also hoping to take over another restaurant business for £175,000, is being groomed for the USM. Its shares are now traded under the special dealing facility rule. Last price was 130p.

Matthew Brown, the Lancashire group which has one of the best profit records among the regional breweries, was the other beer share to advance. It surged 18p to 262p, its best-level ever.

Behind the gain was a revival of suggestions that **Scottish and Newcastle Breweries**, which is known to be keen to acquire a Northern brewery, was about to bid for Brown.

In a week the shares have jumped 42.

The FT-30 share index closed just 1.7 points higher at 926.0 points. The FT-SE share index was 1,205.2 poimnts up 0.5 points.

Government stocks registered gains of up to £¼, drowing a little strength from Friday's cut in the US discount rate.

One share which was sadly devoid of any Christmas cheer was **Good Relations**, the public relations group. It plunged 53p to 227p on suggestions of redundancies and reorganization. But the shares rallid a shade to 237p after the company admitted it was shifting its City operations to an expanded head office at Russell Square, London.

As a result of this – and other – moves, GR says it has acquired more than 17,000 square ft of extra office space, but is giving up 8,000 square of accommodation.

Standard Telephones and Cables was 2p higher at 288p. ITT has sold 10 million shares, reducing its shareholding to the level the Government demanded at the time of STC's successful bid for the ICL computer group.

BAT Industries, currently bidding for Hambro Life Assurance, rose 1p to 351p. The shares have doubled this year and Mr Peter Temple and Mr Chris Hitchings at Hoare Govett, the stockbroker, say the "case for taking profits is starting to look increasingly irresistible".

They point out that with Eagle Star, BAT has spent some £1,600 million acquiring two financial groups which will probably generate profits of £80 million this year.

The analysis suggest tha although BAT's 1984 results "will have proved spectaculaly good", much slower growth is likely next year.

The Hambro Life deal and BAT's sale of its International Stores and cosmetic businesses "indicate that BAT has now entered another more active acquisition phase which could well include a move into financial services overseas and non-food retailing".

Wedgwood, the fine china group, was unchanged at 195p after S G Warburg, the merchant bank, disclosed it was still buying shares for clients. A further 100,000 have been acquired, lifting the Warburg-and-friends shareholding to 22 per cent.

After Friday's excitment, tea shares settled down, although **Eastern Produce** gained another 7p to 340p. **Western Doors Tea Holdings** and **Assam-Dooars Holdings** have both acquired further shares in each other.

Assam now owns 32 per cent of Western and could have triggered off an obligation to bid. Western has lifted its Assam stake to 29.3 per cent.

Enfranchisement rumours helped the **Gestetner Holdings** "A" non-voting shares 3p higher to 69p and **Reliant Holdings** gained 3p to 49p on continuing thoughts that its new sports car, the SS1, will be a success.

Bank shares edged ahead, led by **National Westminster**, up 8p at 587p. **Royal Bank of Scotland** rose 6p to 256p on suggestions that **Lloyds Bank**, up 3p at 522p, may sell its shareholding.

Jaguar continued to attract American investment support, rising 5p to 235p. The shares were sold at 165p by BL in July.

Bath and Portland Group, the quarrying-to-engineering group, rose 5p to 283p on hopes of a higher bid from C. H. Beazer, the building group. B and P has rejected the current Beazer offer which is worth about 240p a share.

Bestobell, where a new chief executive has recently been appointed, rose 6p to 338p on suggestions that BTR might launch a bid and **Delta Group** improved 5p to 108p on talk of a favourable stockbroker's circular.

Stores, as is by now traditional on Christmas eve, were firm with **House of Fraser** and **Dixons Group** adding coppers.

Trafalgar House, unchanged at 331p, has, it appears, sold its Plumtree Court development, in London's Shoe Lane. Norwich Union has paid about £50 million. Coopers and Lybrand, the accountant will occupy the property which stands on the site of the site of the building that was once the home of The Standard *newspaper.*

Pineapple Dance Studios, the USM stock, had the distinction of achieving the biggest Christmas eve gain – up 20 per cent at 90p. Behind the high-stepping advance were suggestions that the shares – 130p earlier this year – had fallen too far.

Revived thoughts of a bid, from Midepsa, a Michael Ashcroft-David Wickins investment vehicle, also helped sentiment.

RECENT ISSUES

RECENT ISSUES	Closing Price
Access Satellite Int 5p Ord (150a)	188+2
Addison Comm 2p Ord (116a)	198
Alida Holdings 25p Ord (140a)	167
Appledore A & P 10p Ord (97)	90
Breakmate 10p Ord (100a)	116
CVD Inc Com Stock $0.01 (105a)	150−5
Candover Inv 25p Ord (160)	186+6
Checkpoint Europe 25p Ord (a)	205
Craton Lodge & Knight 1p Ord (115a)	195+8
Gabicci 5p Ord (78a)	86
Hawtal Whiting 5p Ord (197a)	253
Instem 10p Ord (145a)	235
Klark-Teknik 5p Ord (85a)	115
Media Technology 20p Ord (117a)	178
PSM Int 25p (140)	165
Panny & Giles 25p Ord (130a)	150−1
Plasmec 10p Ord (70a)	74
Sharas Drug Stores 10p Ord (140a)	204
Stone International 20p Ord (125)	143
T & S Stores 5p Ord (a)	119
U D O Holdings 10p Ord (110a)	124
Wardle Storeys 10p (132)	167+1
Wates City of Lon Prop 25p Ord (100)	117
Williams (R) Leisure 5p Ord (20a)	22

Issue price in parentheses a Unlisted Securities, * by tender.

Football: Everton climb into second place as Tottenham, Manchester United, Arsenal and Southampton lose ground

First division's leading sides take the spirit of generosity too far

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The first division held a fancy dress party yesterday. Seven of the eight leading clubs donned white beards, red robes and showered their opponents with gifts. The Father Christmases may have arrived a few hours late but it would be churlish to complain about such generosity. It was a day, if not the season, of outstanding goodwill.

Manchester United stood at the head of the parade. After Tottenham Hotspur had squandered a two-goal lead against West Ham United in the morning, they had an unmistakable opportunity to go to the top of the table as well. But to beat Stoke City, a club that last won 117 days and 20 matches ago, might have seemed too ruthless.

United did take the lead, through Stapleton, but that has become their custom. They have done so in each of their last four away games. Midway through the second half Albiston gave Stoke a helping hand (Painter equalizing from the ensuing penalty) and a couple of minutes later Saunders was allowed to unwrap only their second victory of the season.

Southampton, defending a three-month unbeaten run at home, gave Watford a similar push. Baker's challenge on Lohman just before the interval was punished by Blissett's penalty and he later scored again. Even Southampton's manager, Lawrie McMenemy, entered into the spirit by recalling Williams, who had stated publicly that he never wanted to play for the club again.

The champions were not to be left out. **Liverpool** appeared without Dalglish, Lawrenson and Rush, their three influential if not wise men. By the time they, and particularly the unusual striking partnership of Walsh and Wark, had settled down, Leicester City were two up and on their way to becoming the third League visitors to triumph at Anfield this season.

Arsenal were more miserly than most. They conceded only one goal against **Norwich** at Carrow Road, although the referee curiously disallowed another, but that was enough to maintain their disturbing poor away form. They last won on October 13.

But for two controversial penalties early in the morning at Loftus Road and an equalizer late in the afternoon by Lyons, both **Chelsea** and **Sheffield Wednesday** would have joined in the fun. **Everton** did not but they will probably claim that their invitation to the party was lost in the post.

They might also have made the mistake of overestimating **Sunderland**. After Mountfield had escaped from his defensive duties to score the first with his head and the second with a foot, Everton sat back to await the expected response. It never materialized, although Proctor did pull one back before the end.

Brian Clough, whose **Nottingham Forest** side lengthened **Ipswich Town's** run of defeats, introduced his son, Nigel, to the first team 22 years to the day after his own career was ended prematurely by a knee injury. After the match Clough's main priority was to make sure that his offspring was back in time for tea.

Events at Kenilworth Road were of a more serious nature. **Luton Town** emerged from the only first division fixture to be wrapped entirely in relegation fears by climbing out of the bottom three. Yet their goalkeeper, Sealey, was as responsible as Stein, who scored near the start, and Daniel who claimed his first goal of the season near the end.

The mood of the second division leaders was far from frivolous. **Blackburn Rovers** kept both the four-point gap over their rivals and also their record, unique in the League, of scoring in ever game.



Nigel Clough: a winning debut for Nottingham Forest.

High flier: Crooks hooks Tottenham Hotspur into a two-goal lead against West Ham United at White Hart Lane

Third division

Doncaster's nine men take points

Bradford City, the third division leaders, were beaten for the first time in 14 league games despite facing only nine men in the closing minutes of their fierce Yorkshire derby with **Doncaster Rovers**. The visitors had Butterworth and Harle sent off but they continued to withstand the Bradford attack. A 66th minute goal by Glyn Snodin from a 30-yard free kick decided the issue.

York City kept on the edge of the promotion race with an easy 4-0 win over **Burnley**, who had no answer to the home side's attack in the first half. Banton gave York a seventh minute lead after a bad mistake by Hansbury and further goals came from Houchen and Ford. Hird missed Burnley's two best chances, before Banton wrapped it up for York with his second goal five minutes from the end.

An 87th minute penalty by Walsh gave **Bristol City** a 4-3 win over **Plymouth Argyle**. Five players were booked including Goodyear of Plymouth, who was sent of the 78th minute. Tynan scored all three Plymouth goals in the space of 29 minutes but still finished on the losing side, Walsh and Hutchinson both scoring twice for City.

Walsall survived a desperate late rally from **Preston North End** to win their first home league victory in three months. Walsall took the lead in the thirtieth minute when Wealands, who is on loan from Manchester United, failed to hold a cross from Rees, Shakespeare scored.

Three minutes later a great run and cross by Mower let in Kelly for the second. With 12 minutes left, Greenwood pulled a goal back for Preston.

Cambridge United, bottom of the third division, recorded their second home victory of the season when Finney, who has just returned to them from Brentford, scored the sixty-fifth minute winner against **Bournemouth** with a lovely header.

Wylde delights and dims City's lights

By Peter Ball

Manchester City 1
Barnsley 1

If the sum of energy expended was a guide to a match's quality, Manchester City's largest crowd of the season, 27,131, would have enjoyed their Boxing Day afternoon hugely. Unfortunately, it was not, and the fast and furious efforts of Manchester City and Barnsley virtually cancelled out one another to produce a 1-1 draw.

It has been a frustrating Christmas so far for Manchester City, who had rather the better of things without imposing themselves on the game, and have now taken only one point from the holiday period to see a gap beginning to open between themselves and the top four clubs in the second division.

Although in a similar situation, Barnsley, as the away team, will undoubtedly take the greatest satisfaction from the point gained. Their excellent run to the fringe of the promotion race, interrupted only be a hiccup at Oldham last Sunday, their only defeat in 16 games, has been based on such gritty away performances. But, although their defence battled hard, there was little of their reputed composure about it.

Hysteria never seemed far away when City put them under any real pressure, both Futcher and Law being booked for halting Kinsey's runs illegally and, in the end, they were grateful to their goalkeeper Clive Baker for two splendid saves.

City however, faled to turn their far greater number of attacks into goals, and failed for much of the time to find any consistent rhythm, despite receiving the invaluable boost of the first goal. It came in the 36th minute just after Barnsley's first real threat to William's goal.

McCarthy, the culprit for letting Thomas in, was thankful to Williams for sharp block with his body, but he redeemed himself instantly by moving up the other end to head a Phillips free kick across goal for Melrose to scramble home his fitby goal in five games.

The goal renewed City's impetus, but Baker made the first of his important saves soon after, holding on smartly to Melrose's close-range shot. City's best period of the match, just after half-time, was also unproductive, as a brilliant tackle by Futcher robbed Melrose as he lined up his shot and the forward then headed another centre by Phillips over the crossbar.

They were to pay for those misses as Barnsley, who had created little, despite the energy of Ronson and Thomas in midfield, snatched their equalizer in the 65th minute. Defensive uncertainty allowed Campbell a free header across goal and Wylde bent low to squeeze the ball under Williams for his first goal for the club. Baker ensured that it was worth a point with a flying leap to deny Kinsey in the closing minutes.

MANCHESTER CITY: A Williams; A May, P Power, K McNaught, M McCarthy, D Phillips, G Smith (sub A Cunningham), G Baker, J Melrose, C Wilson, S Kinsey.
BARNSLEY: C Baker; J Joyce, N Law, W Ronson, L May, P Futhcer, C Plummer, G Thomas, I Walsh, R Wylde, W Campbell.
Referee: G Aplin (Kendal).

Into the light at Halifax

The Halifax Town – Hartlepool United fourth division match survived a floodlight failure yesterday. The last three minutes of the first half were played in semi-darkness

Hartlepool won 3-2. They scored twice in a minute in the first half through Dixon and Linigan. Halifax equalized through Ayre and Ward, and Dixon scored the winner.

Thompson escapes from web

By Dennis Shaw

West Bromwich Albion 2
Newcastle United 1

The return of Roeder to Newcastle United's defence threatened for 88 minutes at the Hawthorns yesterday to put the brake on WestBromwich Albion's progress down the fast lane to Europe. His massive contribution as sweeper transformed a backline that had disintegrated in a 4-0 fiasco at Villa Park last Saturday.

Such was his influence that Albion's endless attacking seemed destined to be rewarded merely by a disappointing draw and two home points dropped. Then, with virtually their last despairing throw, Statham lobbed a centre into a goalmouth cluttered, as always, with bodies. Carr caught it precariously, flopped to the ground, and lost control in the pile-up. As legs swirled Thompson jabbed the ball over the line for his seventeenth goal of the season.

The Roeder-inspired defence kept Thompson and Cross emeshed in their web in the second half. Thompson particularly suffered from Newcastle's vigilance, having virtually disappeared from the action after carelessly firing a sixth-minute shot wide of his target.

Cross fared slightly better, crashing past the Newcastle sweeper to make the opening for a scrambled goal by Hunt in the forty-second minute. The English squad player's shot meandered its way through the packed defence, helped by a deflection or two. At that stage Newcastle's capabilities looked distinctly limited.

But they caught Albion cold within a few seconds of the start of the second half. Megson's right-wing cross was the first of a dangerous nature they had conjured from their few forays and far too good to waste. Baird, on loan from Southampton to join the dangerous Waddle as a likely-looking strike force, thumped home at the far plst a header of the kind conspicuously denied to Thompson and Cross at the other end.

The equalizer had the effect of changing Newcastle from defensive to ultra-defensive. Close-marking tactics, backed up by Roeder's mobile attention to danger points and a somewhat chancy offside trap, reduced Albion to long shots and frustration.

As it happened, they had one weapon left in their armoury – their persistence in pursuing a seventh League win in nine matches.

WEST BROMWICH ALBION: A Godden; J Nicholl, D Statham, S Hunt, M Bennett, A Robertson, A Grealish, G Thompson, S Mackenzie, D Cross, C Valentine.
NEWCASTLE UNITED: K Carr; M Brown, P Heard, G Roeder, J Anderson, J Clarke, G Megson, K Wharton, C Waddle, I Baird, N McDonald.
Referee: R Guy (Liverpool).

Tottenham's ghostbusters get a fright from spirit of fixtures past

By Clive White

Tottenham Hotspur 2
West Ham United 2

Typically this season, just when you think one team are beginning to drop a few immodest hints as to the identity of the new Canon League champions, they go and drop a clanger. Tottenham Hotspur were confidently beckoning the New Year after 33 minutes yesterday when, with two away wins at inhospitable Watford and Norwich under their belts, they took a generous two-goal lead against West Ham United. Then, suddenly the ghost of fixtures past caught up with them – and by the end they were scrambling for a draw.

The result at White Hart Lane and at Anfield, where Leicester once again beat Liverpool made you wonder why certain fixtures seem to follow a mysterious pattern. West Ham invariably do well against Tottenham and had won each of the three previous fixtures. Yet they came here in comparatively poor health and with little stomach for the shortest of travels.

The opening half-hour suggested a break with tradition: whereas Tottenham looked lethal at corners, West Ham looked at a severe disadvantage with the play at any height above 5ft 6in, particularly with the removal of the luckless Swindlehurst, who was carried off on a stretcher after an innocent collision with Mabbutt in the 25th minute.

In the event, the substitution by Goddard justified the opinion of many – including Peter Shreeves, the Tottenham manager that West Ham would be better off with Goddard on the field than on the bench. But the other team changes by John Lyall, the West Ham manager, seemed to be spot on.

Even when two goals up, Tottenham were never cruising as they should have been, and would have been in Shreeve's view, had they been away from home. The lack of a creative player – Hazard did not come on until the 59th minute – was probably the reason.

But, elsewhere, Tottenham did not look as comfortable as one would expect of prospective champions. Miller had one of these days when he diced with danger like children playing a game of dare. Hughton played as if he had left his mind back in the dressing room, which is where Roberts should have been after an unsporting foul on Pike. He was booked, as was Hughton for one of two bad fouls on the irrepressible Allen.

Tottenham had taken the lead in the seventeenth minute when Galvin's corner, following an untidy back pass by Orr, was won with comparative ease by Mabbutt and his header threaded its way through a thicket of players. After 33 minutes, another Glavin corner was won by Miller, and Crooks hooked it in over his shoulder.

But West Ham threatened whenever they got people down the flanks, particularly Allen, who always refused to recognize defeat. Shortly after powering over a cross which three West Ham attackers missed, he received the ball after a stumbling run by Orr and crossed perfectly for Cottee to score with time to spare. Eight minutes later, on the other side of the interval, West Ham pulled level with a classic goal straight out of the Upton Park manual. A neat square pass from Dickens; a precise cross from Allen; and a deliberate first-time volley from Goddard. It was as polished and incisive as anything Peters and Hurst ever concocted.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: R Clemence; (sub: M Hazard) G Stevens, C Hughton, G Roberts, P Miller, S Perryman, J Chiedozie, M Falco, A Galvin, G Mabbutt, G Crooks.
WEST HAM UNITED: T McAlister; P Allen, P Brush, A Dickens, A Martin, A Gale, N Orr, P Hilton, D Swindlehurst (sub: P Goddard), A Cottee, G Pike.
Referee: J Bray (Leicestershire).

Pitch and toss at Loftus Road

By Gerald Sinstadt

Queen's Park Rangers 2
Chelsea 2

When it was all over yesterday there remained pleanty to debate but little to reflect on with pleasure. Chelsea's goals were both penalties, thumped home with emphasis by Dixon. In between, Rangers scored with a Bannister drive and a McDonald header. Five players were cautioned. Frost on the plastic pitch and an inconsistent referee made their contributions to the eventual sense of dissatisfaction.

Reactions afterwards were predictable. Frank Sibley, the Queen's Park Rangers acting manager, expressed bewilderment over the penalties. John Hollins, the Chelsea coach, impressed one with the absense of bitterness from his carefully chosen comments. It was a pitch, he said, that called for wholehearted commitment; but there was blood on the dressing room floor. "They've all got cuts, to arms or legs, caused by the pitch".

If this suggests a match that was more holly than mistletoe, it should be said that many a holiday derby has been more prickly than this. It is also true that the bounce of the ball at Loftus Road is undeniably better this season.

Foothold, however, remains problematic. Comparisons with barefoot hopscotch on live coals would be an unfair exaggeration, but the simile sprang to mind on several occasions.

Slips and slices predominated until Thomas, with his low centre of gravity, found the balance to centre accurately. Nevin's volley and Hucker's save matched each other for splendour. Joey Jones and Chivers contested the corner, Jones staggered and Martin gave Dixon his first penalty. The subsequent debate was coloured by sympathy for Chelsea over an early incident when the referee declined an award for Dawes's lunge but denied Davies a clear shot.

With a quarter of the game gone, Rangers began to find their touch. Fillery rescued a half clearance and, from his cross, Bannister whipped in the equalizer. That was on the half hour. Parity lasted for 45 minutes until Keith Jones fouled Waddock and, from Fillery's free kick, McDonald rose to head his first League goal.

McDonald was the hero of Shepherds Bush for only five minutes. Davies, bursting into the penalty area, looked to have pushed the ball too far for retrieval, but McDonald, unable to check his persuit, clumped into the Chelsea forward. Penalty No 2 gave Dixon his 23rd goal of the season.

So, for the ninth Christmas fixture in the last 10 years, Rangers were left without a victory. Their consolations were an attendance 12,000 better than the previous best at Loftus Road this season, as well as the game's one moment of surpassing skill.

Byrne, near the touchline just inside Chelsea's half, set of on a run that took him past tackle after tackle and finally round the goalkeeper. The ball, alas, finished inches outside the post. Had it gone in, it would have bee– a goal that deserved to win most games. But this was a game that really did not deserve a winning goal.

QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS: P Hucker; R James, J Dawes, G Waddock, G Chivers, T Fenwick, A McDonald, M Fillery, G Bannister, J Byrne, J Gregory.
CHELSEA: E Niedzwiecki; D Wood, J Jones, C Lee, J McLaughlin, K Jones, P Nevin (sub: D Speedie), N Spackman, K Dixon, G Davies, M Thomas.

● Frank Sibley, the Queen's Park Rangers acting manager, confirmed after yesterday's draw with Chelsea that Michael Robinson, the Liverpool forward, will be joining the club for a fee of £200,000.

Arsenal in run of away defeats

By Gerry Harrison

Norwich City 1
Arsenal 0

Arsenal stumbled to their sixth consecutive away defeat yesterday, beaten by John Deehan's 43rd minute goal. They were not outplayed, nor were they outthought, but they were out-fought and woke up far too late to the essentials of tackling, something their north London neighbours, Tottenham Hotspur, had accomplished far more impressively against Norwich City four days earlier.

Allinson missed a presentable chance in the 31st minute but Arsenal had little to show for playing three central defenders and both their full backs, Anderson and Sansom, pushed forward.

Norwich had most of the possession, mainly through Hartford's outstanding control and distribution in midfield. Yet it was a surging run from Haylock, the right back, which set up the goal. A couple of Arsenal defenders thought he was going to shoot but Deeham picked up his short deflected-pass and struck his shot through Lukic's legs.

Except for the occasional counter-attack and the long shot, City spent most of the second period in their own half. Woods, the Norwich goalkeeper, was busy but not stretched, except by one header from Anderson, although VanWyk did head off the line and Talbot missed badly with an 84th minute headed chance.

Arsenal stepped up the pace significantly in the last 15 minutes after Nicholas had replaced Allinson. But their balance in midfield was still not right and in the end they were frustrated by a team of battlers who had Hartford and Watson limping because of injuries.

Don Howe, the Arsenal manager, was not discouraged by his team's performance. "I thought we played very well," he said. "John Lukic could have been watching the game with me for all the work he had to do."

Howe described his attempt to sign Steve Williams, the England midfield player, from Southampton as a tug of war situation". He added: "We are doing the best for our club and Lawrie McMenemy is doing the same for Southampton. But its difficult to know what else we can do."

NORWICH CITY: C Woods; P Haylock, D van Wyk, S Bruce, P Mendham, D Watson, L Donawa, M Channon, J Deehan, A Hartford, D Gordon.
ARSENAL: J Lukic; V Anderson, K Sansom, B Talbot, D O'Leary, A Adams, S Robson, T Caton, P Mariner, A Woodcock, I Allinson (sub: C Nicholas).
Referee: B Hill (Kettering).

Fourth division

Mansfield's stand-in stands firm

Mansfield Town's goalkeeper, Kevin Hitchcock, was too shaken to play after being involved in a car accident on his way to Chesterfield yesterday, but his deputy, Andy Beasley, kept a clean sheet on his full League debut to help earn a 0-0 draw.

Southend United, who were saved from the threat of closure last week, clung on for a 3-2 win against **Swindon Town** after being 3-0 ahead. A penalty by Phillips was followed by goals from Whymark and Pennyfather, but Coyne and Gordon scored late for the visitors.

Three goals from Ray Pratt helped **Exeter City** to their first win in 13 games. Pratt scored in the second, 45th and 81st minutes as his side beat their local rivals **Torquay United** 4-3.

Exeter's other goal came from Smith, who was stretchered off just after making the score 2-0. Marshall, Hall and Sims brought Torquay back into the game with three goals in six minutes after the break.

A goal by Todd 11 minutes from time gave **Darlington** a 2-1 win over **Tranmere Rovers**. Darlington had taken a lead through Forster, but Tranmere equalised through Kelly.

Bury took another step towards promotion with a 4-0 home win over **Port Vale** with goals from Entwistle (2), Bramhall and Madden.

First division

Home	HT			HT	Away	Att
LIVERPOOL	(0)	1	2	(2)	LEICESTER	38,419
Neal (pen)					A Smith, Lineker	
LUTON	(1)	2	0	(0)	COVENTRY	9,237
Stein, Daniel						
NORWICH	(1)	1	0	(0)	ARSENAL	17,702
Deehan						
NOTTM FOR	(0)	2	0	(0)	IPSWICH	17,123
Hodge, Metgod						
QPR	(1)	2	2	(1)	CHELSEA	26,610
Bannister, McDonald					Dixon (2 pens)	
SHEFF WED	(0)	1	1	(1)	A VILLA	30,971
Lyons					Rideout	
SOUTH'PTN	(0)	1	2	(1)	WATFORD	19,754
Curtis					Blissett 2	
STOKE	(0)	2	1	(1)	MAN UTD	21,103
Painter (pen), Saunders					Stapleton	
SUNDERLD	(0)	1	2	(2)	EVERTON	19,714
Proctor					Mountfield 2	
TOTTENHM	(2)	2	2	(1)	WEST HAM	37,198
Mabbutt, Crooks					Cottee, Goddard	
WEST BROM	(1)	2	1	(0)	NEWCSTLE	20,248
Hunt, Thompson					Baird	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tottenham	21	12	4	5	43	22	40
Everton	21	12	4	5	45	28	40
Manchester United	21	11	5	5	42	28	38
Arsenal	21	11	3	7	39	27	35
West Bromwich	21	10	4	7	36	30	34
Southampton	21	9	7	5	27	23	34
Nottingham Forest	21	10	3	8	33	31	33
Chelsea	21	8	8	5	37	25	32
Sheffield Wed	21	8	8	5	32	23	32
Liverpool	21	8	7	6	27	21	31
Norwich City	21	8	6	7	29	28	30
Leicester City	21	8	4	9	40	39	28
West Ham United	21	7	7	7	27	30	28
Sunderland	21	7	5	9	28	30	26
Watford	21	6	7	8	40	40	25
Newcastle United	21	6	7	8	33	41	25
Aston Villa	21	6	7	8	28	34	25
QPR	21	5	8	8	25	38	23
Luton Town	21	5	6	10	26	40	21
Ipswich Town	21	4	7	10	19	31	19
Coventry City	21	5	4	12	20	40	19
Stoke City	21	2	5	14	17	46	11

GOLA LEAGUE: Altrincham 2, Barrow 0; Barnet v Wealdstone postponed; Bath 3, Worcester 1; Boston Utd 2, Frickley Ath 1; Dagenham v Enfield – postponed; Dartford 1, Maidstone 1; Kidderminster 0, Telford Utd 2; Northwich Victoria 0, Runcorn 1; Nuneaton 1, Kettering 1; Scarboro 5, Gateshead 1; Yeovil 0, Weymouth 0.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Barking v Billericay – postponed; Bognor Regis 1, Worthing 2; Carshalton Ath 1, Croydon 2; Dulwich H 6, Tooting and Mitcham 1; Epsom and Ewell 1, Sutton Utd 2; Harlow 0, Bishop's Stortford 5; Hayes 2, Harrow 0; Hitchin Town 1, Hendon 1; Leytonstone and Ilford 0, Walthamstow Avenue 2; Slough Town 0, Windsor and Eton 3, Wycombe Wanderers 1, Wokingham 1.
First division: Aveley v Hornchurch – postponed; Basildon v Tilbury – postponed; Clapton v Bromley – postponed; Hampton v Walton and Hersham – postponed; Kingstonian 2, Metropolitan Police 2; Leatherhead v Lewes – postponed; Maidenhead United 4, Oxford City 1; St Albans 1, Hertford Town 0; Wembley 1, Staines 0; Woking v Farnboro – postponed. Second division: Barton Rovers v Wolverton – postponed; Berkhamsted v Hemel H – postponed; Epping 1, Heybridge Swifts 1; Flackwell Heath 1, Marlow 3; Haringey Boro v Finchley – postponed; Kingsbury v Harefield – postponed; Leyton W v Cheshunt – postponed; Royston 1, Saffron Walden 4; Stevenage 2, Letchworth 0; Tring 2, Chalfont St Peter 0.
Second division, south: Banstead 2, Whyteleafe 1; Bracknell v Egham – postponed; Camberley 1, Petersfield 0; Eastbourne Utd v Horsham – postponed; Feltham 1; Southall 2; Grays v Rainham – postponed; Molesey 1, Chertsey 0; Newbury 1, Hungerford 1; Uxbridge v Ruislip Manor – postponed.

Second division

Home	HT			HT	Away	Att
BIRMINGHM	(2)	2	1	(0)	GRIMSBY	14,168
Platnauer, Geddis					Drinkell	
BLACKBURN	(1)	2	1	(0)	LEEDS	20,149
Brotherston, Randell					McCluskey	
BRIGHTON	(1)	1	1	(1)	PORTSMTH	14,854
Ryan					Hilaire	
CARLISLE	(0)	0	3	(1)	MIDDLESBR'	4,423
					Currie, Mills, Otto	
C PALACE	(0)	2	1	(0)	CHARLTON	9,540
Nicholas, Mabbutt					Madden	
FULHAM	(0)	1	0	(0)	SHEFF UTD	6,720
Lewington						
HUDDRSFLD	(0)	2	1	(1)	OLDHAM	9,173
Tempest, Wilson					Harrison	
MAN CITY	(1)	1	1	(0)	BARNSLEY	27,131
Melrose					Wylde	
OXFORD	(0)	4	0	(0)	CARDIFF	12,257
Hamilton 2, Aldridge 2						
SHREWSBRY	(1)	2	1	(0)	WOLVES	9,183
Robinson, McNally					Ainscow	
WIMBLEDON	(2)	3	2	(2)	NOTTS CO	2,991
Evans, Cork, Fishenden					Harkouk 2	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blackburn Rovers	21	14	4	3	44	18	46
Birmingham City	21	13	3	5	27	16	42
Oxford United	19	12	4	3	45	18	40
Portsmouth	21	11	7	3	34	24	40
Manchester City	21	10	6	5	30	19	36
Leeds United	21	11	2	8	38	27	35
Barnsley	20	9	7	4	24	14	34
Huddersfield Town	21	10	4	7	29	27	34
Fulham	21	11	1	9	36	35	34
Grimsby Town	21	10	3	8	40	34	33
Brighton	21	8	6	7	21	16	30
Shrewsbury Town	21	7	7	7	38	33	28
Wimbledon	21	8	4	9	40	46	28
Carlisle United	21	7	4	10	20	30	25
Crystal Palace	20	5	7	8	27	29	22
Middlesbrough	21	6	4	11	28	37	22
Oldham Athletic	21	6	4	11	23	41	22
Wolverhampton	21	6	3	12	28	48	21
Sheffield United	21	4	8	9	28	35	20
Charlton	20	5	5	10	26	33	20
Notts County	20	4	1	15	21	44	13
Cardiff City	21	3	2	16	24	50	11

Third division

Home	HT			HT	Away	Att
BRADFORD	(0)	0	1	(0)	DONCASTER	9,440
					G Snodin	
BRENTFORD	(0)	0	3	(2)	BRISTOL R	5,254
					Stephens, Randall, O'Connor	
BRISTOL C	(3)	4	3	(2)	PLYMOUTH	10,399
Hutchinson 2, Walsh 2 (1 pen)					Tynan 3	
CAMBRIDGE	(0)	1	0	(0)	BOURNMTH	2,158
Finney						
GILLNGHM	(1)	3	2	(1)	DERBY	7,140
Shearer 2, Hinnigan					Buckley, Davison	
NEWPORT	(1)	1	2	(0)	READING	3,061
Chamberlain					Senior, Horrix	
ORIENT	(0)	1	0	(0)	LINCOLN	2,315
Cadette						
SWANSEA	(0)	1	0	(0)	ROTHERHM	3,814
Saunders (pen)						
WALSALL	(2)	2	1	(0)	PRESTON	6,856
Shakespeare, Kelly					Greenwood	
WIGAN	(1)	1	0	(0)	BOLTON	8,871
McElhinney (o.g.)						
YORK	(3)	4	0	(0)	BURNLEY	6,397
Banton 2, Houchen, Ford						

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bradford City	21	13	4	4	31	15	43
Gillingham	21	12	3	6	39	35	39
Hull City	21	10	8	3	34	20	38
Bristol Rovers	20	11	5	4	33	19	38
Rotherham United	21	11	5	5	32	20	38
Millwall	20	10	5	5	35	24	35
York City	21	10	4	7	41	31	34
Bristol City	21	9	6	6	34	28	33
Bournemouth	21	9	5	7	22	16	32
Derby County	21	9	5	7	32	27	32
Doncaster Rovers	21	9	4	8	35	30	31
Walsall	20	8	7	5	26	21	31
Reading	21	9	4	8	28	32	31
Wigan Athletic	21	7	8	6	28	25	29
Brentford	21	7	5	9	24	29	26
Newport County	22	6	7	9	26	30	25
Plymouth Argyle	21	6	6	9	35	42	24
Bolton Wanderers	21	7	2	12	34	38	23
Lincoln City	21	5	7	9	27	28	22
Burnley	21	5	7	9	29	37	22
Preston North End	21	6	2	13	26	51	20
Swansea City	21	5	3	13	25	42	18
Orient	21	5	2	14	24	41	17
Cambridge United	21	3	4	14	19	39	13

Fourth division

Home	HT			HT	Away	Att
ALDERSHOT	(1)	1	1	(0)	CREWE	2,330
McCulloch					Allatt	
BLACKPOOL	(1)	3	0	(0)	ROCHDALE	5,641
Stewart 2, Windridge						
BURY	(2)	4	0	(0)	PORT VALE	4,664
Entwhistle 2, Bramhall, Madden						
CHESTER	(2)	2	1	(1)	WREXHAM	3,968
Holden, Walker (pen)					Edwards	
CHESTRFLD	(0)	0	0	(0)	MANSFIELD	6,960
COLCHSTER	(0)	2	2	(1)	HEREFORD	2,825
Bowen, Adcock					S Phillips, I Phillips (o.g.)	
DARLINGTN	(1)	2	1	(1)	TRANMERE	6,108
Forster, Todd					Kelly	
EXETER	(3)	4	3	(0)	TORQUAY	3,925
Pratt 3, Smith					Marshall, Hall, Sims	
HALIFAX	(2)	2	3	(2)	HARTLPOOL	1,409
Ayre, Gallagher					Dixon 2, Linighan	
NORTHMPN	(0)	0	2	(0)	PETERBORO	4,360
					Shepherd, Kelly, Worrall	
SCUNTHRPE	(1)	1	0	(0)	STOCKPORT	2,881
Cammack						
SOUTHEND	(1)	3	2	(0)	SWINDON	2,942
Phillips (pen), Whymark, Pennyfather					Coyne, Gordon	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bury	21	13	5	3	37	18	44
Darlington	21	12	8	1	31	13	44
Hereford United	21	13	4	4	35	16	43
Blackpool	22	12	5	5	36	22	41
Chesterfield	20	11	7	2	36	18	40
Peterborough	21	11	4	6	31	22	37
Tranmere Rovers	21	11	1	9	39	34	34
Hartlepool United	21	9	7	5	27	25	34
Colchester United	21	9	6	6	40	35	33
Crewe Alexandra	22	10	3	9	38	34	33
Swindon Town	21	8	5	8	28	29	29
Scunthorpe United	20	7	7	6	33	28	28
Southend United	22	7	7	8	34	41	28
Port Vale	21	7	6	8	23	26	27
Mansfield Town	20	6	7	7	13	13	25
Stockport County	21	6	5	10	25	36	23
Aldershot	20	5	4	11	25	32	19
Exeter City	20	4	7	9	24	33	19
Rochdale	21	4	7	10	18	31	19
Halifax Town	19	6	1	12	15	31	19
Chester	21	4	6	11	20	33	18
Torquay United	21	4	6	11	20	33	18
Northampton	21	5	2	14	22	36	17
Wrexham	19	4	2	13	28	37	14

IRISH LEAGUE: Ards 2, Larne 1; Ballymena 2, Coleraine 2; Carrick Rangers 1, Bangor 1; Cliftonville 2, Glenavon 1; Distillery 0, Glentoran 2; Linfield 0; Crusaders 2; Portadown 6, Newry Tn 1.

Scottish second division

E STIRLING (–) 3 2 (–) QUEEN'S P

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Alloa Athletic	19	11	5	3	34	15	27
Montrose	19	12	3	4	28	20	27
Dunfermline	19	10	6	3	32	15	26
Cowdenbeath	19	8	4	7	35	25	20
Stranraer	18	9	2	7	31	27	20
Stenhousemuir	19	7	6	6	23	27	20
Raith Rovers	19	7	5	7	29	28	19
Stirling Albion	19	5	8	6	29	23	18
Berwick	18	5	7	7	21	20	17
Queen of South	19	5	6	8	25	29	16
Queen's Park	20	6	3	11	27	35	15
East Stirling	19	3	8	8	22	31	14
Albion Rovers	17	6	1	10	19	35	13
Arbroath	19	4	4	11	16	39	12

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Chorley 1, Horwich 1; Goole 4, Grantham 1; Macclesfield 0, Hyde Utd 0; Matlock 2, Buxton 1; Mossley 0, Witton Albion 2; Rhyl 1, Bangor City 1; Southport 1, Marine 1; Stafford Rngrs 0, Burton Albion 2; Worksop 1, Gainsboro 1.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Alvechurch 1, Fisher Ath 2; Bedworth 2, A P Leamington 0; Cheltenham 4, Gloucester 0; Crawley v Hastings – postponed; Fareham Tn 0, R S Southampton 0; Folkestone 2, Chelmsford 1; Gravesend 0, Welling Utd 1; King's Lynn 2, Corby 2; Trowbridge 3, Witney Tn 0; Willenhall v Shepshed – postponed.
Midland division: Aylesbury 4, Leicester 0; Bromsgrove 0, Hednesford 3; Forest Green 0, Dudley 2; Redditch 5, Banbury 1; Stourbridge 1, Merthyr Tydfil 0; Wellingborough 1, VS Rugby 3. Southern division: Addlestone and Weybridge 3, Poole 1; Dorchester 0, Hillingdon 0; Salisbury 2, Waterlooville 1; Sheppey 1, Erith and Belvedere 0; Tonbridge 3, Thanet 2; Postponed: Woodford v Canterbury.
ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Brightlingsea 1, Wivenhoe 1; Coggeshall 1, Witham 3.
SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Midhurst 1, Portfield 3; Whitehawk 2, Peacehaven 2.
NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Curzon Ashton 1, Stalybridge Celtic 2.
NORTH WEST LEAGUE CUP: Third round: Fleetwood Town 6, Wren Rovers 1. Replays: Eastwood Hanley 1, Accrington Stanley 2; Prescot Cables 0, Winsford Utd 6.
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Alfreton Town 2, Eastwood Town 0; Appleby Frodingham 4, Boston 1, Belper Town 1, Guiseley 0; Denaby Utd 1, Bentley Vict. 1; Emley 2, Mexborough Town 1, Pontefract Cols. 0, Bridlington Trinity 0. First division: Farsley Celtic 4, Tadcaster Alb 0; Harrogate Rly 2, Harrogate Town 1; Liversedge 4, Garforth 0; Frecheville 0, Hallam 0.
COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Ash 6, Farnham 0; Cobham 4, BAE (Weybridge) 2; Cove v Frimley Gn – postponed; Fleet v Hanley W – postponed; Godalming v Cranleigh – postponed; Horley v Merstham – postponed; Malden Vale v Malden Town – postponed; Southwick 4, Farleigh Rovers 1; Virginia Water v Chobham – postponed.
WESTERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford 1, Barnstaple 0; Bristol Manor Farm 2, Mangotsfield 1; Devizes 0, Chippenham 3; Exmouth 3, Dawlish 1; Liskeard 0, Saltash 3; Shepton Mallet 1, Chard 1; Taunton 1, Minehead 2.
NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Peterlee 4, Horden CW 0; South Bank 0, Whitby 2; Shildon 0, Bishop Auckland 3; Tow Law 3, Consett 2; Chester-le-Street 0, Ryhope 3; Blyth Spartans 1, Spennymoor 0.





Mabbutt heads Tottenham's first goal against West Ham (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

FOOTBALL

Lights go out for Wallace in France

WORLD FOOTBALL
Brian Glanville

At the midwinter break, Verona remain top of the Italian League, though they were held to a draw last Sunday in Como. Milan, who were again without Hateley, at last won away from home, beating Ascoli thanks to a goal by Tassotti. Ray Wilkins was again in fine form.

At San Siro the Indian sign Trevor Francis seemed to have over Internazionale was inoperative for once. Inter, with Rummenigge in splendid vein and scorer of a goal, beat Sampoonia 2-0. In previous such games, Francis had the help of Liam Brady, who is now with Inter.

Platini had the better of his duel with Maradona and Naples, scoring a goal and thus remaining top League scorer. Juventus won, 2-0 and Maradona, always in the thick of controversy, must be glad to have gone home for Christmas.

Platini honoured

Michel Platini, has gained yet another accolade. *France Football* magazine's the magazine France "European Golden Football" award by a record majority. A panel of 26 journalists chose Platini, who led France to the European Championship last summer after helping Juventus win the European Cup Winners' Cup and the Italian league title. Ian Rush was fourth in the poll, Graeme Souness sixth and Bryan Robson tenth.

In France Ian Wallace made an excellent start to the season with Brest: the club for whom the Midlander, Nigel Page-Jones, did so well in defence, a decade ago. But now the lights are dim. The new manager Robert Dewilder ("I haven't the soul of a gendarme"), will not even play him in away games.

When Brest's nine-match unbeaten run came to an end with a home defeat by Toulon, Wallace's direct opponent, the stopper, Luigi Alfano, said: "Wallace? I couldn't judge him. He never tried a thing." Bleak days for a player who once cost a million pounds.

He has asked to be allowed to return to Britain, saying: "I didn't come here to play one match in two." Brest directors say they are negotiating with an English club, but have not named it.

Happier days for Zmuda, the Polish international sweeper or stopper, veteran of two World Cups, on duty at Pescara recently for Poland against Italy, though clubless. Now he can return to Italy for the second half of the season.

Every first division club had to give its permission for him to join promoted Cremonese: he left Verona at the end of last season. Naples and Ascoli said no, but now Ascoli, like Naples, have withdrawn their veto.

Injuries proliferate among famous players. Hateley, who is now in England, to the dismay of Milan's president, Farina (he missed the club Christmas party), acknowledges that he came back too soon, against Atalanta, who kicked him three times on his damaged knee. He will not play for Milan again until the January 6 game against Lazio, at the earliest.

Zico is back in Brazil, with a thigh muscle torn in three places. Udinese will not have him for more than a month; if then. His fellow Brazilian, Falcao of Roma, has just been all the way to Atlanta, Georgia, to have his damaged knee examined, then operated on.

Chalana, of Bordeaux, most expensive player in the history of French football has torn his thigh muscle again and is home in Lisbon for treatment, hoping to be ready by January 19 when play restarts.

Mexico have learned from FIFA that they will play all their 1986 World Cup group two games on the heights of Mexico City. "Incontestably an advantage," says their Yugoslav manager, Bora Milutinovic, whose brother, Milos, has done so well recently with Yugoslavia.

Bora confirms that he will be bringing the experienced dentist-striker Hugo Sanchez back from Atlético Madrid, but days that he too, alas, lacks the dynamic turn of pace which his attack so badly needs.

Players stripped

Celebrating Argentinos Juniors supporters, who stripped their own players to their underpants when they were winning a match against Temperley may have cost their team the match. The referee, Carlos Esposito, took the team's off for fifteen minutes from time. At the other end, riot police moved in when Argentinos supporters started pelting the Temperley players with sticks, stone and corner flagpoles. The Argentine Soccer Federation will decide whether to award the match to Argentinos or order its resumption for the remaining four minutes' play.

In Barcelona next Sunday, Real Madrid, revitalized by their 6-1 UEFA Cup win over Anderlecht, look for revenge against the League leaders, Barcelona, who beat them 3-0 at the Bernabeu in the opening game of the season. There will be fully 120,000 fans there. Real hope that the four fine youngsters they have promoted from Castilla, their nursery team — Butragueno, Michel, Sanchis and Martin Vazquez, will again excel.

On Sunday, Butragueno got a late equalizer for Real in Alicante against Hercules, who twice held the lead. Barcelona thus increased their margin to four points, though the second of their goals in a 2-0 win at home to Racing Santander, a penalty by Bernd Schuster came only just before time.

Brian Glanville is football correspondent of The Sunday Times

FA Vase draw

[illegible]

CRICKET

Kapil Dev could play in Test after meeting to defuse row

Calcutta (Press Association and Reuter) – Kapil Dev, India's leading all-rounder, could yet play in the third Test match against England, which starts in Calcutta on Monday. This follows a meeting over Christmas to defuse a row between him and the team captain, Sunil Gavaskar.

However, the intervention of N K P Salve, president of the Indian Cricket Board, to ease the tension which followed Kapil Dev's omission from the Test party after his "reckless" batting in the second Test match, which England won, has come too late for him to take part in today's second one-day international at Cuttack. Kapil Dev's absence will weaken India's chances of drawing level in the five-match series after England's four-wicket win in the first game at Poona.

The dispute over the dropping of Kapil Dev for the third Test match seemed to be nearing a solution after India's board recommended that another player be added to the 14-member party picked for the match. Indian board sources said Kapil Dev was expected to be named as the fifteenth member of the Test party after talks among senior officials in Nagpur on Christmas Day.

The board, moved swiftly to defuse the crisis, and Mr Salve said later that there were no differences between Kapil Dev and Gavaskar. That assurance came as posters demanding Kapil Dev's reinstatement went up in Calcutta. "No Kapil, No Test", they read.

But Kapil Dev rejected reports that he had been dropped because of indiscipline. "If there was indiscipline, they were supposed to send me a letter. So far I have not got any letter", he said.

Kapil Dev came in to bat on the last day of last week's Test in Delhi with India only 96 runs, ahead and five wickets left. He scored a six off the second ball he faced, but was caught by Lamb when he tried to repeat the shot off the next ball.

Several newspapers had reported that there were differences between Gavaskar and Kapil Dev during the Second Test. But the Press Trust of India (PTI) quoted Mr Salve as saying he was convinced that relations between the two players were cordial, and that the board had requested the selectors to consider a fifteenth member for the party.

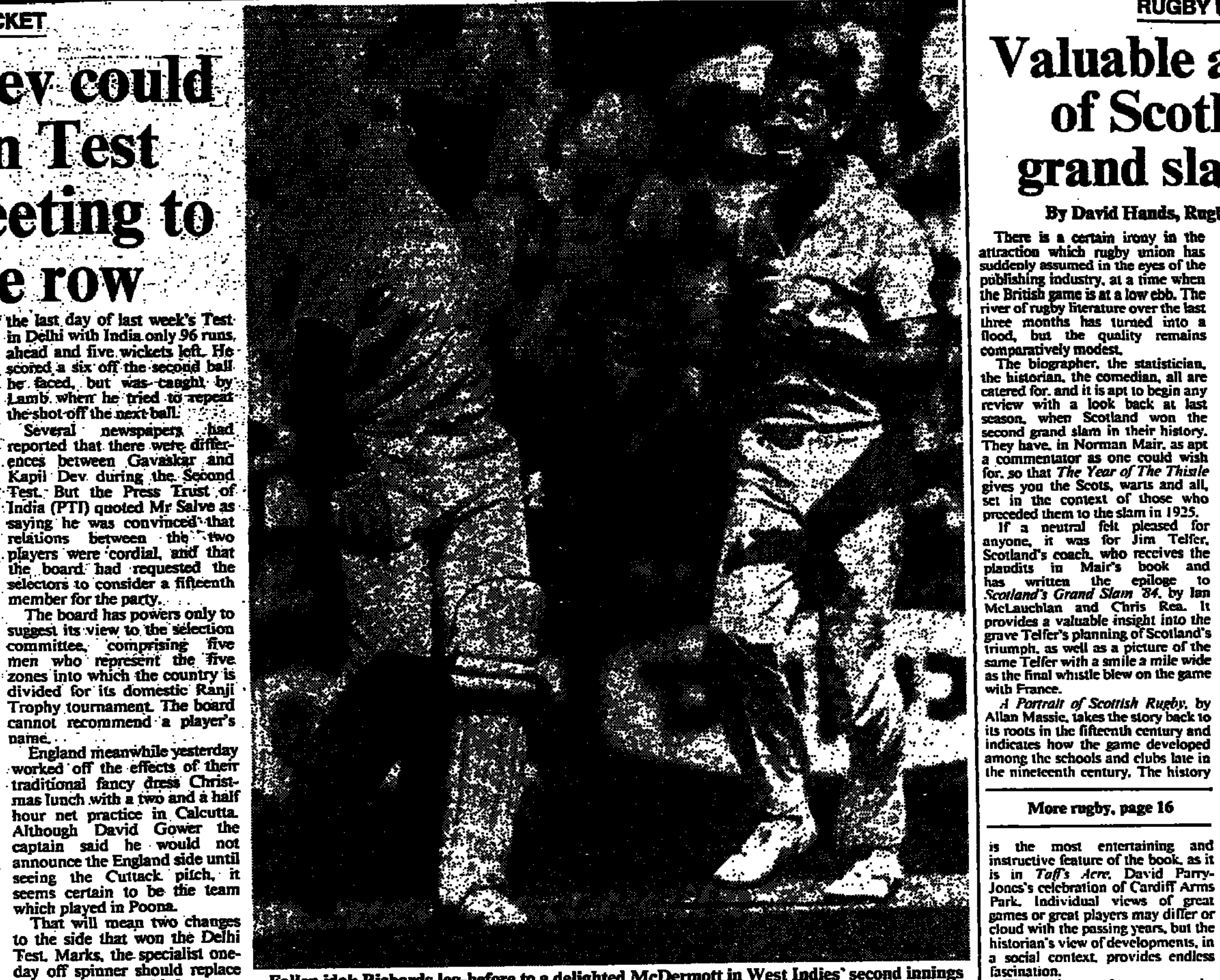
The board has powers only to suggest its view to the selection committee, comprising five men who represent the five zones into which the country is divided for its domestic Ranji Trophy tournament. The board cannot recommend a player's name.

England meanwhile yesterday worked off the effects of their traditional fancy dress Christmas lunch with a two and a half hour net practice in Calcutta. Although David Gower the captain said he would not announce the England side until seeing the Cuttack pitch, it seems certain to be the team which played in Poona.

That will mean two changes to the side that won the Delhi Test. Marks, the specialist one-day off spinner should replace Pocock, while a third seamer bowler, Foster, may replace Cowdrey.

Three years ago in Cuttack, England lost to India in the deciding contest of a three-match series. The likelihood of that result being repeated this time looks slim. England are in confident mood after the Test victory, and the win over East Zone and hope to extend that winning sequence today.

Kapil Dev: rift with Gavaskar 'healed'



Fallen idol: Richards leg-before to a delighted McDermott in West Indies' second innings

West Indian fortunes restored in stand by Lloyd and Dujon

Melbourne (Reuter) – The West Indians seemed certain to declare overnight and set Australia a difficult target on the final day of the fourth Test match at the Melbourne Cricket Ground today.

After bowling Australia out for 296, West Indies, already 3-0 ahead in the series of five Tests, were 163 for five at close of play on the fourth day, an overall lead of 346 runs.

The smallest crowd for a Test on Boxing Day, 15,504, witnessed an eventful day. The West Indies survived an early collapse as Richards was out without scoring. Greenidge and Richardson also failed to make double figures.

Richards, who made 208 in the first innings, became one of the three victims of McDermott, who at 19 is making his Test debut, when he was trapped leg-before after facing only two balls. McDerott, who took three for 53 off 20 overs, had fine support from Lawson who dismissed Greenridge and Richardson for one and three respectively.

But after West Indies had struggled to 63 for four, Lloyd, their captain, who scored 22 and Dujon, who made 40, came to the rescue with an unbeaten sixth wicket stand of 63 in 87 minutes.

The day began with Australia resuming at 281 for nine but Bennett and Hogg, the tailenders, added only 15 runs afte rplay had been held up for 71 minutes because of overnight rain and a drizzle in the morning.

West Indies' second innings started on a low note when Greenidge, who had looked uncomfortable against the pace of Lawsn, was out leg before with only two runs on the board. They were still tentative after lunch and Lawson bowled Richardson when he tried to hit him out of the ground but was beaten for pace.

At 12 for two a wave of optimism swept round the ground, but it was short-lived. Gomes and Haynes put on 51 in 70 minutes before Gomes was brilliantly caught at square leg by Bennett off McDermott for 18.

Haynes had been the only West Indian batsman in control against the Australian attack but he too could not cope with the pace of McDermott and was bowled for 63 with the total 100.

If West Indies win it will be their twelfth consecutive Test victory and their 27th without defeat; the last time they lost a Test was at Melbourne in 1981-82.

WEST INDIES: First Innings 479 (I V A Richards 208, H A Gomes 68, M D Marshall 55, R B Richardson 51).

Second Innings

C G Greenidge lbw b Lawson	1
D L Haynes b McDermott	63
R B Richardson b Lawson	3
H A Gomes c Bennett b McDermott	18
I V A Richards lbw b McDermott	0
†P J Dujon not out	40
*C H Lloyd not out	22
Extras (b4, l-b 7, n-b 5)	16
Total (5 wkts)	163

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-12, 3-63, 4-63, 5-100.

BOWLING: Lawson 17-4-45-2; Hogg 14-3-40-0; McDermott 20-6-53-3; Bennett 3-0-12-0; Wessels 1-0-2-0.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

G M Wood lbw b Garner	12
A M J Hilditch b Harper	70
K C Wessels c Dujon b Marshall	90
K J Hughes c Dujon b Walsh	0
*A R Border c Richards B Walsh	35
G R J Matthews b Marshall	5
†S J Rixon c Richardson b Marshall	0
M J Bennett not out	22
G F Lawson c Walsh b Garner	8
C J McDermott b Marshall	0
R M Hogg b Marshall	19
Extras (b 5, l-b 7, w 1, n-b 22)	35
Total	296

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-38, 2-161, 3-163, 4-220, 5-238, 6-238, 7-240, 8-253, 9-253.

BOWLING: Marshall 31.5-6-86; Garner 24-6-74-2; Walsh 21-5-57-2; Harper 14-1-58-1; Richard 1-0-9-0

Umpires: P McConnell and S Randall

Australians beaten by five runs

Adelaide (Reuter) – England won the second women's Test match by five runs at the Adelaide Oval on Monday after taking Australia's first five second innings wicket for only six runs. Australia, needing 126 to win, finally reached 120.

Avril Starling (medium pace) and Jill McConway (left-arm spin) did most of the damage to Australia's second innings. Starling took five for 36 in 15.5 overs and McConway three for 35 in 21. England achieved their victory, to go one up in the five-match series, after being bowled out for 91 in their first innings.

Their captain, Jan Southgate, said of Australia's second innings collapse: "We had a little bit of luck, the bowlers bowled brilliantly, everyone caught brilliantly and we got ourselves into a winning position."

England: 91 and 296; Australia 262 and 120.

Agreeing to terms

Ravi Ratnayeke, the Sri Lankan all-rounder, has agreed terms with Nantwich, the North Staffordshire and South Cheshire league side. He will be a member of the Sri Lankan tour party which leaves for Australia in the New Year to play in the World Championship of Cricket.

Where cricketers complete their education

Keeping the MCC flag flying on an isle in the Ionian Sea

There is, this close season, some unexpected cricket news from Corfu, that green island off the coast of Albania, where more Spiroses take *messi* – guard to ex-patriots – than Joneses do in Glamorgan.

The Esplanade, the one ground on the island, which is sited in the centre of Corfu Town and overlooked by a fort, a palace and buildings of contrasting architectural styles, has been re-sown with grass. That there is seemingly only one lawn mower on Corfu, and that grass is now two feet high, is neither here nor there.

For this is a breakthrough which should put an end to a painful tradition. Cricketers who have played there over the last decade can be recognized when their legs are exposed by the honourable scars they carry on their knee-caps.

The outfield has doubled as an unswept car park. Bottle-tops, glass and pebbles littered the sandy surface. I know. I ripped two pairs of flannels in a fortnight's hurling myself around the boundary. Yet, despite it all, no cricketer's education is complete until he has played in Corfu.

The pitch is coconut matting on concrete and the standard of play of the volatile Greeks is supposed to be improving. Their ambition is to be elected associate members of the (ICC) International Cricket Conference and then play in the ICC Trophy. Their umpiring is idiosyncratic and their *ouzo*-drinking crowds , which can reach four figures, are twice as noisy as the Hill at Sydney and half as ignorant.

It is, indeed, remarkable that the appeal of cricket to the Corfiots should have survived two world wars and numerous other difficulties. In recent years their four clubs have been kept going chiefly through the efforts of Ben Brocklehurst, owner of *The Cricketer* and Corfu's one-man MCC, who organized the annual festival.

The Anglo-Corfu Cricket Association, of which he is vice-president, and whose members include several distinguished names, last summer arranged special coaching at Lord's for Costa Vassilas, an 18-year-old Greek, who has set his hearton becoming the first professional Corfiot cricketer. He impressed Don Wilson, MCC's chief coach, sufficiently to be invited back.

Corfu cricket stories are legion. On arrival at The Esplanade - most players come by moped, some wearing their pads - the touring captain, as is the custom, is invited to call when the *drachma* is spun. Not many are inclined for heads, although why is as much as a mystery as is the derivation of the yorker. Unsuspecting, he is then politely informed that the call should have been for Mount Olympus and that his side are to field in the heat of the day. Local custom is not always axiomatic.

Of the many clubs that have toured Corfu, Ron Roberts's International XI of 1962 was perhaps the pick. It included such names as Kanhai, Hall, D'Oliveira, Borde, Alley and Marshall.

In their three-day match, Wesley Hall was out first ball, whereupon the captain, Colin Ingleby-Mackenzie, signalled his declaration to the fielding side. The Corfiots made no move to come in, which led Ingleby-Mackenzie to assume that they did no want the bowler to be denied his chance of a hat-trick. He grabbed a bat, and rushed out to take strike. Unfortunately, his appearance without pads was not at first taken in the spirit intended. All the tact, ingenuity and billingual powers of the British consul were required to restore the *status quo*.

Ivo Tennant

Umpires held to blame

Islamabad (Reuter) – A Pakistani inquiry committee has found that the umpires, Khizer Hayat and Mian Aslam, made at least six doubtful decisions in the second Test match between Pakistan and New Zealand in Hyderabad last month.

The official APP news agency quoted the Pakistan cricket board's acting secretary, Rafi Nasim, as saying the report by the former captain, Hanif Mohammad, and former umpire, Shuja-ud-din, decided that Khizer and Mian had given at least four doubtful decisions against New Zealand and two against Pakistan.

The inquiry, ordered by the board after protests by New Zealand, who lost the series 2-0, did not however propose taking any action against the umpires.

● COLOMBO (AFP) – A 16-strong Sri Lankan cricket party left yesterday for Australia to take part in the triangular World Series Cup with Australia and West Indies, followed by the World Championship of Cricket, involving all the Test playing countries.

PARTY: I R D Mendis (captain), R L Das deSilva, L F de Mel, B John, J R Ratnayeke, A Rantunga, J Ratnayake, A Silva, D B Kuruppu, G De Silva, A de Silva, M Vonl Hagt, U Kamaln. Manager N Channugam; Assistant Manager: L Wijesinghe.

RUGBY UNION

Valuable accounts of Scotland's grand slam year

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

There is a certain irony in the attraction which rugby union has suddenly assumed in the eyes of the publishing industry, at a time when the British game is at a low ebb. The river of rugby literature over the last three months has turned into a flood, but the quality remains comparatively modest.

The biographer, the statistician, the historian, the comedian, all are catered for, and it is apt to begin any review with a look back at last season, when Scotland won the second grand slam in their history. They have, in Norman Mair, as apt a commentator as one could wish for, so that *The Year of The Thistle* gives you the Scots, warts and all, set in the context of those who preceded them to the slam in 1925.

If a neutral felt pleased for anyone, it was for Jim Telfer, Scotland's coach, who receives the plaudits in Mair's book and has written the epiloge to *Scotland's Grand Slam '84*, by Ian McLauchlan and Chris Rea. It provides a valuable insight into the grave Telfer's planning of Scotland's triumph, as well as a picture of the same Telfer with a smile a mile wide as the final whistle blew on the game with France.

A Portrait of Scottish Rugby, by Allan Massie, takes the story back to its roots in the fifteenth century and indicates how the game developed among the schools and clubs late in the nineteenth century. The history

More rugby, page 16

is the most entertaining and instructive feature of the book, as it is in *Taff's Acre*, David Parry-Jones's celebration of Cardiff Arms Park. Individual views of great games or great players may differ or cloud with the passing years, but the historian's view of developments, in a social context, provides endless fascination.

There is much to provoke thought, particularly in the light of recent events, in *Ella, Ella, Ella*, by Bret Harris, an Australian journalist, who traces the rise of Mark, Glen and Garry, the Aboriginal brothers who toured Britain in 1981 and of whom only Mark was here this season.

The rise to prominence from a deprived Sydney township of the three brothers – there is a fourth likely to make his mark – is the most compelling part of a liberally-illustrated book, though I suspect that what the brothers do with their lives after rugby will be of even greater interest.

Autobiography is with us again in the shape of *The Scrum Half of My Life*, the contribution of Steve Smith, England's former scrum half and captain, to an already well-trodden period. As one who helped produce the autobiography of another former England captain it may not be altogether becoming to say so, but I think there should be a moratorium on English rugby autobiographies – at least from the playing point of view.

It has not been a distinguished period, with the exception of 1980, and after a while the personalities begin to merge one with the other. But Smith's story, as befits his chirpy character, is more generous than some, as are his comments on Ciaran Fitzgerald and Des Seabrook (which might have justified more prominence earlier in the book). The treatment accorded Fitzgerald in 1983 was shabby in the extreme, whatever his ability as a player, and Smith says so. Seabrook, who has done so much for northern rugby as player and coach, seems to have sunk without trace over the last 18 months.

I welcome the return to rugby of the boy's annual, in this case Nigel Starmer-Smith's *Rugby Annual*, directed at the enthusiastic younster. It is a formula which can serve the game well.

Of the statistical books available, *Rothmans Rugby Yearbook 1984-85* is so obviously the best; yet the publishers are not resting on their laurels, for they have introduced in the latest yearbook a section – overdue and still somewhat small – on colts and youth rugby, an area of the game which is vitally important

The technical side of the game is not forgotten either: *Rugby for Beginners*, that excellent manual by Ray Williams, written over 10 years ago, has been reprinted in paperback, and the modern school is served by *Rugby Coaching the New Zealand Way*, written by two former All Black centres, Bruce Robertson and Bill Osborne. The main virtue of the book is its simplicity but any player, junior or



Telfer: arch-planner

senior, may care to take to heart two sentences: "Kicking, just for the sake of it with no real motive and, what is worse, done badly, because of a poor technique, is the most frustrating aspect of so much modern rugby. Such kicking merely presents the ball to the opposition."

Among rugby books recently published are:

Scotland's Grand Slam '84 by Ian McLauchlan and Chris Rea (Stanley Paul £7.95); **A Portrait of Scottish Rugby**, by Allan Massie (Polygon, £10.95); **The Scrum Half of My Life**, by Steve Smith (Stanley Paul, £7 95); **Rugby From the Front**, by Peter Wheeler revised and updated in paperback (Granada £1 95); **Gareth Edwards's Most Memorable Matches**, by Gareth Edwards (Stanley Paul £6 95); **Nigel Starmer-Smith's Rugby Annual** (Purnell, £2.95); **Rothmans Rugby Yearbook 1984-85** (Queen Anne Press, £7 95 softback £12.95 hardback); **Playfair Rugby Union Annual 1984-85** (Queen Anne Press, £1 75); **Who's Who in International Rugby**, edited by David Emery (Queen Anne Press, £3 95 softback, £6.95 hardback); **The Book of Rugby Lists**, edited by Norman Giller (Sidgwick and Jackson, £6.95 softback, £9 95 hardback); **The Book of Rugby Disasters and Bizarre Records**, edited by Fran Cotton (Century, £8.95); **Leo and Jilly Cooper on Rugby** (Bell and Hyman, £4.95); **Rugby for Beginners**, by Ray Williams (Souvenir Press, £4 95); **Rugby Coaching the New Zealand Way**, by Bruce Robertson and Bill Osborne (Hutchinson, £4.95); **The Year of The Thistle**, by Norman Mair (Collins Willow, £9 95); **Taff's Acre**, edited by David Parry-Jones (Collins Willow, £9.95); **Run With The Ball**, by Derek Robinson (Collins Willow, £8.95); **Ella, Ella, Ella**, by Bret Harris (Springwood Books, £9 95).

ATHLETICS

Soviet Union have most successful year

Paris (Reuter) – An analysis of world best performances in athletics events in 1984 showed the Soviet Union has a clear lead overall, led. According to the annual survey published yesterday by *L'Equipe*, the French sports paper, the women's rankings and were second to the United States in the men's list.

It was the tenth consecutive time that the United States had finished top of the men's rankings, where the top two places have been unchanged since 1975. East Germany have has been ousted from third place only twice, by West Germany in 1979 and last year.

In the women's rankings, where the top two countries have also been unchanged for a decade, the United States entered the top ten for the first time on third position.

MEN: (last year's positions in brackets): 1, United States, 1,331pts (1); 2, Soviet Union, 928 (2); 3, East Germany, 503.5 (4); 4, Britain, 298.5 (5); 5, Italy, 179 (10); 6, West Germany, 168.5 (3); 7, Kenya, 157 (14); 8, Czechoslovakia, 126 (11); 9, Poland, 123 (8); 10, France, 118 (9).

WOMEN: 1, Soviet Union, 1,106; 2, East Germany, 769; 3, United States, 4275; 4, Czechoslovakia, 172.5; 5, Bulgaria, 171; 6, Britain, 169; 7, Romania, 163.5; 8, West Germany, 131; 9, Poland, 128.5; 10 Canada, 112.5.

OVERALL: 1, Soviet Union, 2,045; 2, United States, 1,755.5; 3, East Germany, 1,270.5; 4, Britain, 455; 5, West Germany, 299.5; 6, Czechoslovakia, 293; 7, Bulgaria, 275.5; 8, Poland, 248.5; 9, Italy, 233.5; 10, Canada, 212.5.

● TOKYO (Reuter) Joyce Smith, of Britain, and Carey May, of Ireland, will be among fifteen overseas runners taking part in the Osaka Women's Marathon on January 27, the organising committee said on Monday.

The Irish runner, 25, who won the 1983 Osaka marathon in two hours 29 munutes 23 seconds, and Mrs Smith, 47, winner of the 1982 London Marathon in 2:29:43, are favourites in a field of 255 athletes.

● PARIS (AFP) – Canada, have named a nine-strong team, including their double Olympic medal winner Ben Johnson, for the first world indoor athletics championships here on January 18 and 19. Johnson, part of a team which comprises four men and five women, won bronze medals in the men's 100 metre relay at Los Angeles.

WOMEN: 60m, 200m: A Taylor. 400m: C Crooks. 800m, 150m: B McRoberts 150m, 300m: D Scott. High jump: D Brill. Men: 60m: B Johnson, T Sharp 60m Hurdles: J Glass. High jump: A Metellus.

IN BRIEF

Paris-Dakar rally cars can cross Algeria

Paris (AFP) – Algeria have given next month's Paris to Dakar rally permission to travel through their country after the organizer, Thierry Sabine, made a lightning visit to Algiers.

The government recently announced they were barring the rally because there had been insufficient contact between Sabine and the Touring Club of Algeria, who would have to provide support facilities. The Algerians were also unhappy about allegations that they overcharged competitors for petrol in this year's race.

The rally is due to start on January 1 and pass through Niger, Mali and Mauretania on the way to Senegal.

TENNIS: Gabriela Sabatini, aged 14, from Argentina, won the women's under-18 singles in the Orange Bowl tournament at Miami Beach when she beat Katerina Maleeva (Bulgaria) 6-1, 6-3 in the final. Victory in the men's under-18 singles went to Ricky Brown (United States) who beat a compatriot, Jay Berger, 6-3, 6-3.

FOOTBALL: Luis Fernandez, the French international midfield player, who underwent knee surgery on Christmas Eve, hopes to be fit to play for Paris St-Germain in February. He was allowed home for Christmas Day.

SKIING: The International Skiing Federation have rescheduled three World Cup downhill races which were cancelled this month through lack of snow. The men's race due to have taken place at Val d'Isère will be held at Kitzbühel on January 11; the women's race due at Bormio will go ahead on January 18 at Wengen, and the women's event called off at Altenmarkt will take place on January 9 at Bad Kleinkirchheim.

RUGBY UNION: Jerome Gallion, the French scrum half, has been named player of the year by the weekly *Midi Olympique*. Its top 10 players of 1984 are, in order, Gallion, David Campese (Australia), Danie Gerber (South Africa), Didier Codorniou and Philippe Dintrans (both France), Murray Mexted (New Zealand), Rob Louw (South Africa), David Leslie (Scotland), Philippe Sella (France) and Mark Ella (Australia).

YACHTING

Condor makes running in Sydney race

Sydney (AFP) – Condor of Bermuda, the maxi yacht, was first through the heads when the Sydney to Hobart race started here yesterday. Condor, with John Kolius of the America 11 yacht at the helm, still led the fleet after 40 minutes but was strongly pressed by Apollo and Margaret Rintoul Four, both Australian yachts, with Condor, the joint favourites.

A record 155 starters raced down the harbour under multi-coloured spinnakers after Neville Wran, the New South Wales prime minister, fired the starting gun. The fleet faced gusting southerly winds of around 20 knots

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Bristol Rovers v Southampton (2.0).

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Leicester v Barbarians (2.45); Swansea v London Welsh (3.0)

OTHER SPORT

HOCKEY: Women's county championship tournament: North (at Queen Mary School, Lytham St Annes, 12.0)

BASKETBALL: World Invitation Club championship (at Crystal Palace)

ICE HOCKEY

Hand grasps the nettle to keep Racers in the hunt

By Robert Pryce

Murrayfield Racers expect to be better prepared for their visit to Fife Flyers next Saturday than they were for Streatham last Saturday. They expect new Canadian centre to arrive today to replace Larry Gaudet, who resigned without notice last week, and are awaiting news of Chris Kelland, who has a knew injury. Alex Dampier, the Murrayfield coach, hopes to be able to end his brief return to the ice. "I like playing", he said, "but I Like playing when I'm in shape."

Murrayfield still lead the premier division, sponsored by Heineken, after gaining a 6-6 draw at Streatham,and a 10-6 win at home to Whitley Warriors. In both games they made slow starts, and in both games young players came to their rescue.

After being held up by fog on the way to London and falling 3-0 behind in the first period at Streatham, Murrayfield earned a point by scoring five unanswered goals in 16 minutes of the second period. Tony Hand, the 18-year-pld centre who leads the premier division scoring, hit three goals and assisted on the other three.

In Edinburgh, Murrayfield scored the last four goals on the game to beat Whitley for their first win in four games. Lindsay Lovell, centring the second line in Gaudet's absence, contributed four goals.

Fife held on to second place in the table with a 22-5 win over the depleted Southampton Vikings. Dave Stoyanovich, their Canadian left wing, set a premier division record by scoring 13 goals.

Solihull's grip on the first division proved slacker than almost anyone had believed possible. Peter Smith led their parade through 107 minutes in the penalty box by picking up a misconduct penalty in the first minute. Alcide Jutras (5 goals) and Shannon Hope (4) punished them further as Peterborough Pirates earned a 13-6 win.

YACHTING: Freedom, the last American winner of the America's Cup, has arrived at Sete, neart Montpellier, to become a practice boat for Marc Pajot's French challenge for the 1986-87 Cup off Perth, Western Australia.

Fishmongers' Hall has a change of director

By Conrad Voss Bark

FISHING

The Salmon and Trout Association, which has its offices in Fishmongers' Hall by the Thames, is the only national organisation which represents the interests of fly fishermen, and for many of its members it will be sad news that Don Thompson, its director, has resigned after only two years in office.

Mr Thompson, a retired senior executive from Shell, and a devoted fisherman, joned SATA in October 1982, with a reputation for getting things done. In the two years snce there have been many changes for the better. Membership has increased, the office organisation has been improved, reservoir fishermen have begun to join, a stillwater managers' association started, the elitist image has dimished, and an important change of policy has taken place.

The association now supports the interests of rod and line fishermen, representing the ordinary angler, whereas in the pre-Thompson era it tried to mix anglers' interests with those of commercial salmon fishermen, the netsmen

A mild revolution of this kind could not have taken place without a great deal of soul-searching among some of the older members of the council and the executive. It was not therefore surprising for opposition to the Thompson methods and policies to develop.

He had his supporters. One senior member of the association's council told *The Times*: "He is the first director we've had who has directed."

Office changes which Mr Thompson urged on the executive committee have now been made and he will be leaving in mid-January to take on the voluntary job of executive vice-chairman of the SATA's water resources group, which is investigating pollution on the River Torridge. His successor at Fishmongers' Hall is Colonel James Ferguson, a retired army officer.

RUGBY UNION

Pontypridd buried in Cardiff avalanche

By Gerald Davies

Cardiff 44
Pontypridd 12

Things are not going too well for Pontypridd these days, having lost 11 of their 21 matches to date; but that, as their supporters would admit, is an improvement on recent bleak seasons.

Cardiff, on the other hand, with Holmes firmly back in harness and Davies intent on proving his worth to those unbelievers who are still around, are on song. Carrying on where they left off against Bridgend last Saturday, the home side were too strong in most departments for Pontypridd yesterday and they won by six goals and two tries to three tries.

Without being able to finish off many of their moves, Pontypridd, nonetheless, contributed substantially to a very entertaining game, with not a penalty goal in sight. There was only one kickable penalty offered all afternoon out of six given, and even that Cardiff ignored and ran in a try.

Even without Robert Norster, Cardiff, largely through Shaw at the front, won a lot of lineout possession. But the forwards were there simply to lay the foundations for the threequarters to run. If it was a shade loose on occasions it hardly mattered.

The pressure in the first 10 minutes though came from the visitors, but after that the threequarter salvoes and scores came from Cardiff. In the next quarter of an hour they scored four tries and finished the match as a contest. Mark Ring scored the first after initiating the movement himself. Then he carved the opening for the second, too, scored by Paul Rees. The full back then created the overlap which saw Crodel run 60 metres to score the third try.

Pontypridd's threequarter defence barely existed and to show that there was not much of it close to the scrum, Scott picked up from a scrum close to the line for Holmes to charge over. Davies converted three of these which is how the first half ended.

The tries came thick and fast in the second half, too. The forwards entered the act briefly with tries by Phillips and Roberts, and Hadley and Cordle scored one each on the wings. Davies again converted three of these. Jones, Chilcott and Edwards got the tries for Pontypridd.

SCORERS: Cardiff: Tries: Ring, Rees, Cordle, Holmes, Phillips, Hadley, Roberts, Cordle. Conversions: Davies (6). Pontypridd: Tries: Jones, Chilcott, Edwards.

CARDIFF: P Rees; G Cordle, M Ring, A Donovan, A Hadley, G Davies, T Holmes (captain); J Whitefoot, A Phillips, I Eidman, O Golding, T Shaw, H Stone, G Roberts, J Scott.

PONTYPRIDD: R Williams; A Cartwright, M Murphy, I Walsh (captain), J Robinson, R Crane, R Davies, A Edwards, A Witts (rep M Roberts), N Wilding, G Jones, S Duke, S Bain, C Groves, K Williams.

Referee: Clive Norling (Welsh RU)

Injured Norster may miss Wales's match with France

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Robert Norster, one of the few Welsh forwards to maintain his reputation in defeat against Australia last month, seems sure to miss his country's first international of the five nations' championship against France on January 19. Norster broke his jaw playing for Cardiff against Bridgend at the Weekend and may be out for as long as two months.

Should this prove to be the case, the Welsh selectors have no replacement of any great experience to whom to turn. The other middle jumper in their squad is Moseley, and it could be beneficial were he to pack down with Perkins, his Pontypool colleague. But Moseley, aged 20, is in only his second senior season, though he did play against France in the B international at Newport last month.

NOrster will miss the game at Welford Road today between Leicester and the Barbarians, in which Wheeler, Leicester's hooker and formerly England's captain, returns to first-class rugby. Wheeler's last senior game was that between the Midland Division and the Australians, in which he and his opposite number were sent off.

Wheeler, having served his mandatory suspension, has been chosen – not without a pang, one imagines – ahead of Tressler, the young man who has served in his shadow so faithfully these past three seasons. Every time a door opens for Tressler, who has played for England Under-23 teams, to establish his first-team place, Wheeler's form indicates that he cannot yet be dismissed.

Leicester will be without three of their internationals: Youngs and Steven Redfern, have sustained injuries in recent weeks and have not recovered in time to challenge for a place, and Underwood is to play on the left wing for the Northern Division against the Romanians at Birkenhead Park on Saturday and the club have not chosen him. Evans, the Under-23 international, moves across and Williams plays on Leicester's right wing.

The Barbarians will have Cannon, the Northampton lock, standing in for Norster and they have also had to replace Jeffery, the Kelso back row player, who won his first cap for Scotland against Australia. He sustained concussion at the weekend and it is hoped that his place at no 8 can go to Hesford, of Bristol, although he, too, had to leave the field injured during the match against Newbridge yesterday.

Leicester have won the last three encounters, scoring 30 points or more in each of them, and of their number today Woodward may be keen to show that his omission from England's current squad is premature. The performance of Stuart Redfern, who played for an England XV against the RFU president's team in September, may also be noted. He plays opposite the experienced Pearce, who will himself have more than a passing interest in next Tuesday's England team announcement, after a season much curtailed by injury.

LEICESTER: W Hare; K Williams, C Woodward, P Dodge, B Evans; L Cusworth, S Kenney; Stuart Redfern, P Wheeler, W Richardson, J Wells, N Joyce, M Foulkes-Arnold, I Smith, D Richards.

BARBARIANS: M Wyatt (Swansea); S Smith (Wasps), R Ackerman (London Welsh), M Ring (Cardiff), R Baird (Kelso); G Davies (Cardiff), T Holmes (Cardiff); I Stephens (Bridgend), M Watkins (Newport), G Pearce (Northampton), S McGaughey (Hawick), W Anderson (Dungannon), V Cannon (Northampton), G Rees (Nottingham), R Hesford (Bristol).

Referee: A Hosie (Scotland).



Norster in the thick of it: he may be out of action for two months

More push in Coventry pack

By a Special Correspondent

Moseley 3
Coventry 10

Derbies between these two rivals so often go against current form, and yesterday's was no exception, with Coventry improving a dismal record and avenging an earlier home defeat by Moseley.

They scored a pushover try and a penalty try when Moseley collapsed a scrum to prevent a pushover – which says just about everything about a match which did nothing to brighten the season's festivities.

Coventry's pack dominated every phase, but lacked the backs to feed off the abundant possession they provided. Moseley's backs simply had no platform from which to work.

Apart from a brief spell starting the second half, when Moseley won six successive lineouts, the lanky Kidner obliterated them in this department, and the final count was 27-12 to Coventry.

Mosley, missing Boyle, their British Lions lock, were always under pressure in the scrums, too. Thomas, Coventry's scrum hald, gave his backs their chance, found them wanting in enterprise or penetration, then contented himself with keeping th ball in front of his rampaging forwards.

Coventry must have thought it was not to be their day, however, when Thomas missed a penalty in front of the posts after two mins.

The home forwards did'nt offer Thomas any chance to atone, which says much for their discipline under fire. However, a Coventry score was inevitable and arrived after 32 minutes.

Wrights's excellent touch-finder took them near the line where Kidner, of course won the lineout. Coventry drove from there. Moseley conceded a scrum and, to prevent a pushover, collapsed it. Thomas converted the penalty try.

Moseley's little gush of supremacy after the interval yielded a 35-yard penalty by Meanwell but their attempts to launch their free-scoring winger, Goodwin, were frustrated by Coventry backs who defended much more effectively than they attacked.

Moseley's fires soon spluttered and died, the Coventry pack took charge again and settled the game in the 69th minute when, after managing to prevent one pushover try, Moseley could not contain the next scrum and Robbins dived in for the touchdown.

SCORERS: MOSELEY: Meanwell (penalty); COVENTRY: Robbins (try), penalty try; Thomas (conversion).

MOSELEY: G Meanwell; J Goodwin, C Arntzen, C Smith, A Thomas; P Goodwin, S Cookson; M Linnett, G Cox, G Smith, A Ricardo, P Daniell, I Day, R Barr, P Shillingford.

COVENTRY: M Fairn; M Hall, C Rawlston, T Buttimore, M Summers; N Wright, S Thomas; L Johnson, S Brain, S Wilkes, A Gulliver, B Kidner, M Trumper, T Travers, G Robbins.

Referee: V Schwarz (Liverpool).

Bath win but get no buns

By Alan Gibson

Bath 22
Clifton 9

Many years ago, that venerable and aristocratic club, Clifton, had a spot of bother at their annual dinner with the visiting musicians. "We had been warned it might be noisy," the leader of the musicians said afterwards. "but our lady singer was deeply upset when she was hit in the face by a cream bun." I see the cartoonist, Paul Crum, has just published a collection called "The Last Cream Bun", and I thought this might be an omen for somebody.

Clifton have fallen somewhat from their former estate, but Bath, who had never stood higher among English clubs than they do today, still give them a match on Boxing Day. It was a sunny afternoon, though it became very cold. The scene was beautiful, apart from the blank starting blocks of the Sports Centre. How fortunate are the SDP not to be allowed to hold their conference in the ugliest place in Bath. It would have done their image no good at all.

Bath fielded a strong side, and duly won, by a goal and four tries to a goal and a penalty goal. They scored first, with a try by Turner, after a break by that admirable and rather neglected Cornish winger, Trevaskis. Clifton, however, wore their Christmas puddings with more indifference in the first half hour. They drew level with a try by Tanner, their right wing, and Hickey's conversion put them in the lead. Only just before half time did Bath score again, a try by Hakin, the large, genial Irish forward, after Watkins had made the important break.

Stanley converted the try, the only successful kick at goal made by Bath all afternoon, though all sorts of people had a try, including Hakin (lengthy, distinguished, and wide) and Halliday (a shot that would have worried Shilton, diving to his right). Bath must find a goal-kicker if they are to have any chance in the John Player Cup this year.

In the second half Bath played better, running well on the heavy ground. Egerton, yet another formidable looking back-row forward, Blackett, and Stanley scored tries. Halliday had a run or two which gave us a glimpse of what he might become, though I am not sure if he has fully recovered his confidence after his serious injury. He needs to take his time.

Preston battled on the end, and Hickey – a famous Clifton name – kicked a penalty. They could be well pleased with their efforts. There were no cream buns presented to Bath, though towards the end there may have been, on both sides, a cream puff here or there.

BATH: P Orzabal; P Blackett, S Halliday, A Rees, B Trevaskis; A Watkins, C Stanley; C Lilley (captain), J Deane, C Folland, J Morrison, R Hakin, N Maslen, P Turner, D Eggerton.

CLIFTON: J Prosser, D Tanner, R Brooks, J Masters, C Marsdon, J Hickey, R Gunning; S Hucker, M Williams, B Beckett, P Brown (captain), D Wiggins, M Crook, D Mason, N Morgan.

Referee: K Ricketts (Hampshire).

Pearce in tactical command

Llanelli 28 London Welsh 12

Llanelli were too strong for London Welsh at Stradey Park yesterday. There was a notable display by the Llanelli stand-off half, Pearce, who three years ago was dropped by Wales and has not come into the reckoning since. He dropped a neat goal in the second minute and his intelligent tactical variations posed problems for the visitors.

A brave rally by the Welsh in the second half brought a couple of deserved tries, the second by George after he had moved to stand-off to replace the injured price.

SCORERS: Llanelli: Tries: Delaney, Ellis, Cooper. Conversions: Pearce (2). Penalties: Gravells (2), Pearce. Dropped goal: Pearce. London Welsh: Tries: Fouhy, George. Conversions: Thomas (2).

Bristol 34 Newbridge 6

Bristol's powerful second-half performance at Filton Avenue, brought them five tries and a comfortable victory over Newbridge in the last of the traditional Boxing Day fixtures between the clubs.

SCORERS: Bristol: Jeffrey, Stiff, Hesford, Barnes, Pomphrey. Conversions: Barnes (4). Penalties: Barnes (2). Newbridge: Try: Manley. Conversion: Turner.

Irish luck remains true to last

By Peter Marson

London Irish 7
Old Millhillians 4

London Irish needed some luck at Sunbury yesterday, but they were made to wait for 80 minutes and more before Kearn's straight penalty goal secured a narrow victory.

It was bright and sunny, though cold enough to remind everyone that it was important to keep circulation going, while the dodgers and weavers on the field needed to be especially careful not to fall over on a slippery top surface. Not that jugglers and tumblers would have been out of place in a highly entertaining first quarter when both sides contrived to make so many daft mistakes as to make the opening scene more a first-rate comedy than a rugby match.

O'Hara's turn came first when he charged down the pitch, and only he failed to see the funny side as he stretched to reach the bouncing ball before fumbling as he braced himself in his dive to score. The Irish then embarked on some speculative running cross-field

When the wily old boys then tried to pull a fast one on Barry Murphy at a tight scrummage, Kearns looked supremely confident as he teed up the ball 20 metres out on the left. His kick was beautifully struck and the ball sailed high between the uprights. But an over-zealous Irishman, following up, had jumped the gun and was going at a canter when caught offside. Kearns was more successful in injury time.

The scoring of a decent try by Hopley severed this jocular thread and signalle the start to a more serious affray

If Barry Murphy, terrier-like, was an inspiration to his side, then the same could be said of Leach, a staunch defender and a fine thrusting runner whose skill and resource in a dazzling cross-field run provided Constable with the opportunity to score his side's equalising try.

SCORERS: London Irish: Try, Hopley; Penalty, Kearns.
Old Millhillians: Try, Constable.

LONDON IRISH: S Kearns; S Campbell, P Davidson, B Hurley, N Murphy (rep. S Cooke); P Hopley, B Murphy (capt); T Hennessy, M Leonard, D McGauley, B Casey, B McGuire, C Kelly, J Pickersgill, P O'Hara.

OLD MILLHILLIANS: P Beadle; M Anderson, G Chase, R Leach (capt), S Rosencrantz; B Calvert, P Kenyon; M Constable, D Haw, V Gudenian, G Davies, N Edwards, S England, N Vestavik (rep. D Lloyd); J Rosencrantz.

Referee: M Coley (London Sy).





Paxton: winning lineout ball and much to the fore

Academicals keep trying

By Ian McLanchlan

Edinburgh Academicals in their annual Boxing Day fixture with the Co-optimists, faced a team containing 10 full internationals and two B caps. Though the Academicals lost by 64 points to six they gave the large crowd plenty of entertainment as they tried to match their more illustrious opponents in the running game.

The Co-optimists scored 13 tries through Wylie (three), Tukalo, Mackenzie and Paxton (two each), Price, Hunter, and the Calder twins, Jim and Findlay.

The most heartening part of the day was the fine performance of Ian Paxton, the Scotland No 8, in his second game after a long injury break. He won much lineout ball and was well to the fore in the list. Also prominent was his clubmate, Tukalo, whose aggressive running not only gained him two tries but also set up two more for his colleagues.

For the Academicals, Jeremy Richardson played well in the lineout while the back row of Drennan, Paterson-Brown and Charlie Richardson battled hard against the odds. Their try came from a good scrummage close to the line with Dun, the scrum half, being driven over the line for a score which Hutcheson converted.

Yesterday's results

CLUB MATCHES

Aberavon	7	Neath	9
Abertillery	16	Ebbw Vale	12
Bath	22	Clifton	9
Bedford	34	Old Paulines	3
Bridgend	16	Maesteg	12
Bristol	34	Newbridge	6
Cardiff	44	Pontypridd	12
Cross Keys	3	Pontypool	20
Edinburgh Acad	6	Co-optimists	64
Gala	4	Melrose	9
Glasgow Acad	14	Glasgow Kivside	20
Gloucester	25	Lydney	9
Gosforth	42	Northern	0
Hartlepool Rovers	9	West Hartlepool	19
Heriot's	10	Royal High	12
Jed-Forest	9	Hawick	18
Llanelli	28	London Welsh	12
London Irish	7	Old Millhillians	4
Middlesbrough	34	Redcar	6
Morley	21	Otley	0
Moseley	3	Coventry	10
Newport	41	S Glamorgan Inst	4
Northampton	14	Saracens	4
Redruth	9	Camborne	12
Rugby	0	Nuneaton	11
Sale	30	Broughton Park	3
Swansea	26	Glamorgan Wanders	4
Torquay	16	Exeter	12
Vale of Lune	18	Kendal	13
Waterloo	31	Birkenhead Park	6

RUGBY LEAGUE

St Helens take another tumble

By Keith Macklin

The St Helens cup of woe was filled to overflowing yesterday as Wigan came to Knowsley Road and beat them 30-22 in a rousing match watched by 18,000 people. Wigan, who were comprehensively beaten in the Lancashire Cup final by St Helens earlier in the season, fought back magnificently after trailing 16-14 to record their eighth successive win.

St Helens, joint league-leaders, have now lost two games in a row following a 13-match unbeaten run since the arrival of the Australian centre, Meninga. The Australian got a try for St Helens in yesterday's game, and they seemed likely to hold out when further tries by Gorley and Round helped them to their interval lead. However, Wigan came back strongly, scoring five tries to three, the last of them coming a minute from time through Ian Potter.

Kenny, Wigan's Australian half back, Dunn, Gill and West scored the other Wigan tries and Whitfield kicked five goals. Day scored three goals and Holding two for St Helens.

Widnes took advantage of the St Helens slip by defeating Oldham, the other joint leaders, 14-10. Widnes found themselves 10-0 down after only 25 minutes but their full back, Mick Burke, started a revival with a try and three goals. There is now a five-way tie on 20 points at the top of the league.

Hull were surprisingly beaten 20-4 at Featherstone; the Hunslet v Hull Kingston Rovers game was postponed.

The magnificent Halifax revival continued as they beat their neighbours Bradford Northern, 26-8, before a vig crowd at Thrum Hall with Ryan, one of eight Australians in their side, scoring three tries, while Leeds won the local derby with Castleford 20-14.

In the second division, Carlisle lost to their fellow promotion contenders, Whitehaven, 20-8, but Swinton and Mansfield maintained their challenges with home victories, Swinton denting the promotion hopes of their adjoining town, Salford.

FIRST DIVISION: Barrow 27, Workington Town 8; Featherstone Rovers 20, Hull 4; Halifax 26, Bradford Northern 8; Hunslet v Hull K R - postponed; Leeds 20, Castleford 14; Leigh 12, Warrington 19; St Helens 22, Wigan 30; Widnes 14, Oldham 10.

SECOND DIVISION: Batley 8, Dewsbury 2; Blackpool Borough 32, Rochdale Hornets 6; Doncaster 11, York 40; Huddersfield 36, Keighley 20; Mansfield Marksman 26, Sheffield Eagles 20; Swinton 18, Salford 5; Wakefield Trinity 8, Bramley 6; Whitehaven 20, Carlisle 8.

Hull teams are kept apart

Hull and their neighbours, Hull Kingston Rovers, have been kept apart in the semi-final draw for the John Player Trophy. This means that there could be a repeat of the Humberside final in 1982.

Hull, who won the final 12-4 in front of a competition record crowd of 25,165, will meet the holders Leeds, in their semi-final on January 5. Hull KR have been drawn against Halifax, who have been strengthened by the introduction of several Australians and that match will be played on Saturday.

The Warrington v Leeds and Hull v Hunslet League games scheduled for January 6 have been postponed because of the semi-finals.

DRAW: Hull KR v Halifax (at Leeds, Dec 29); Hull v Leeds (at Boothferry Park, Jan 5).

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

UNITED STATES: National League (NFL): Play-off: New York Giants 16, Los Angeles Rams 13.

BASKETBALL

UNITED STATES: National Association (NBA): Sunday's result: Seattle Supersonics 107, Los Angeles Clippers 97.
Tuesday's results: Philadelphia 76ers 109, Detroit Pistons 108; Cleveland Cavaliers 109, Atlanta Hawks 106; New Jersey Nets 120, New York Knicks 114; Portland Trail Blazers 106, Golden State Warriors 97.
MADRID: International Tournament: USSR 87, Yugoslavia 67; Real Madrid 105, New Jersey All-Stars 90.

ICE HOCKEY

NORTH AMERICA: National League (NHL): Philadelphia Flyers 7, Washington Capitals 4; Buffalo Sabres 3, St Louis Blues 2; Boston Bruins 4, Minnesota North Stars 3 (O-T); Montreal Canadiens 3, New York Rangers 3 (O-T); Winnipeg Jets 4, Los Angeles Kings 4 (O-T); Quebec Nordiques 3, Chicago Black Hawks 2 (O-T); Calgary Flames 5, Vancouver Canucks 4.

WALES CONFERENCE

	W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts
Patrick Division						
Washington	18	10	7	144	108	43
Philadelphia	19	9	5	142	96	43
N Y Islanders	19	12	1	157	130	39
Pittsburgh	12	16	3	111	134	27
New Jersey	11	17	4	112	135	26
N York Rangers	11	17	4	115	134	26
Adams Division						
Montreal	19	9	6	140	112	44
Quebec	15	15	5	131	134	35
Boston	14	15	5	122	116	33
Buffalo	12	12	9	116	108	33
Hartford	12	15	4	103	135	28

CAMPBELL CONFERENCE

	W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts
Norris Division						
Chicago	16	15	3	169	126	35
St Louis	14	13	5	123	121	33
Detroit	11	19	4	125	155	26
Minnesota	10	17	6	114	136	26
Toronto	6	23	5	108	160	17
Smythe Division						
Edmonton	23	7	3	157	102	49
Winnipeg	19	11	4	150	135	42
Calgary	18	13	3	170	138	39
Los Angeles	15	13	6	152	137	36
Vancouver	8	24	3	108	191	19

TENNIS

MELBOURNE: Victorian Open Championship, First round: (US unless stated): D Cahill (Aus) bt B Levine, 6-7, 6-2, 6-3; H Sands bt G Layendecker, 6-3, 7-6; J Hlasek (Switz) bt K Belcher, 2-6, 6-2, 7-5; J Smith (GB) bt C Limberger (Aus), 6-4, 6-7, 6-2; M Wooldridge bt C Miller (Aus), 7-6, 6-7, 6-2; C Dowdeswell (GB) bt D Houston (Aus), 7-5, 6-2; S McCain bt M Mecir (Cz), 6-3, 6-2; M Anger bt T Champion (Fr), 7-6, 7-5.

MIAMI BEACH: Orange Bowl tournament: Girls Semi-finals: Under-12: L Spadea (US) bt K Kessaris (US), 6-3, 6-0.
Under-14: C Moss (US) bt S Okada (Jap), 6-2, 6-0.
Under-16: M J Fernandez (US) bt (P Tarabini (Arg), 6-4, 6-1.
Under-18: G Sabatini (Arg) bt K Maleeva (Bul), 6-1, 6-3.
Under-16 doubles: S Maier/C Porwik (WG) bt G Alexander/K Sipos (Can), 6-4, 6-3.
Under-18 doubles: G Sabatini/M Paz (Arg) bt V Milvidskaya/N Bykova (USSR), w/o. Boys finals: Under-12: J Alven (Swe) bt W Kyriakos (Br), 7-5, 6-3. Under-14: N Pereira (Ven) bt J Courier (US), 7-6, (7-3), 6-3. Under-16: H Skoff (Austria) bt G Perez Roldan (Arg), 6-1, 6-4. Under-18: R Brown (US) bt J Berger (US), 6-3, 6-3. Under 16 doubles: A Parker/M Jensen (US) bt A Boetsch/S Grenier (Fr), 7-6 (7-3), 6-4. Under 18 doubles: J Brown/S Cannon (US) bt P Korda/C Suk (Cz), 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.

GRAND PRIX STANDINGS: Singles: 1, J McEnroe (US) 3,393 pts; 2, J Connors (US) 2,903; 3, I Lendl (Czech) 2,714; 4, M Wilander (Swe) 2,450; 5, A Gomez (Ec) 2,222; 6, J Nystrom (Swe) 1,314; 7, H Sundstrom (Swe) 1,218; 8, W Rwraxhwe (USA) 1,213; 9, A Jarryd (Swe) 1,205; 10, T Amis (Czech) 1,156.

DOUBLES: Edmondson (Aus) S Stewart (USA) 588; 2, P Fleming McEnroe (US) 351; 3, K Flach/R Seguso (US) 354; 4, P Slozil/T Smid (Czech) 306; 5, H Gunthardt (Switz)/B Taroczy (Hung) 286.

RACING

Tondbad races into Triumph picture

From Our Irish Correspondent, Dublin

Irish three-year-old hurdle form was turned upside-down and a new favourite for the *Daily Express* Triumph Hurdle unearthed at Leopardstown yesterday when Derryvale and Lincoln forfeited hitherto unbeaten records behind Tondbab in the Duffy Meats Juvenile Hurdle.

Tommy Carmody gave the winning filly a typically opportunistic ride, sending her into a clear lead coming to the second to last flight. She was 10 lengths clear of the pack on the final bend but got very tired on the run-in. Carmody allowed her to slacken off and she almost walked past the post two lengths ahead of the outsider, Brimstone Lady.

Tondbad was promoted to 14-1 favouritism for Cheltenham by William Hill after yesterday's race, but there must be reservations about whether she is a genuine Cheltenham sort. Dermot Weld, her trainer, admits that she has a lot to learn and he will now give her a rest before bringing her back into action in February.

Because of the state of the roads in Co Limerick, Andrew McNamara was unable to get Boreen Prince up to Leopardstown, bot instead ran him at his local meeting where he overturned previous Fairyhouse form, beating Lucisis into third place in the Ballsbridge Tattersalls Novices' Chase.

As a result of this win over two and three quarter miles, Boren Prince put paid to the idea that he was non-stayer. In his absence Fredcoteri started favourite at Leopardstown for the Dennys Gold Medal Novices Chase. He threw his chance away, however, with a bad mistake at the second last fence and although rallying under pressure on the flat, was held off by the Eddie O'Grady trained Poet's Corner. The winner had been a big disappointment behind Browne's Gazette over hurdles at Cheltenham in March, but apparently he travelled very badly.

This afternoon Ararun could put himself firmly into the Champion Hurdle picture by successfully conceding 20lb to Polar Bear in th Findus Beefburger Hurdle. Ararun has won five successive hurdle races this season but O'Grady believes it will take something exceptional to give so much to Polar Bear.

Tommy Carmody: opportunistic ride on Tondbad

Results from eight meetings

Kempton Park

12.40 (2m 4f ch) 1, GAINSAY (P Scudamore, 7-2); 2, Steersby (A Carroll, 16-1); 3, Gratification (J Francome, 11-8 on fav). ALSO RAN: 4 Handy Billy (f), 66 Celtic Way (f), 100 Armatrist (4th), Brooklands (pu). 7 ran. 3l, nk, 25l. (D Nicholson, at Stow On The Wold). TOTE: £3.70; £1.90, £4.20. DF: £23.00. CSF: £42.50.

1.10 (2m hdle) 1, THE HACIENDEROS (Mr D Murphy, evens fav); 2, Gale's Image (R Linley, 3-1); 3, Amrullah (A Jones, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 13-2 Folly Hill (4th), 16 Asa Spades (6th), 20 Glen Rum, 25 Percase, 33 Jimjams (5th). 8 ran. NR: Hypnosis, Mount Bolus, Welsh Warrior, Dragon Palace. Nk, 30l, 12l, 5l, 30l. D T Thom at Newmarket. TOTE: £1.90; £1.30, £1.30, £1.60. DF: £2.60. CSF: £4.35.

1.40 (2m hdle) 1, BROWNE'S GAZETTE (D Browne, 11-8 fav); 2, Desert Orchid (C Brown, 10-1); 3, See You Then (J Francome, 2-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Ra Nova (5th), 25 Rushmoor, 33 Janus (4th), Stans Pride. 7 ran. 15l, 10l, 8l, 8l, 10l. Mrs M Dickinson at Harewood. TOTE: £2.70; £1.80, £2.80. DF: £10.00. CSF: £14.61.

2.15 (3m ch) 1, BURROUGH HILL LAD (J Francome, 1-2 fav); 2, Combs Ditch (C Brown 13-2); 3, Wayward Lad (R Earnshaw 5-2). 3 ran. Sh hd, dis. Mrs J Pitman, at Upper Lambourn. TOTE: £1.40; DF £1.80. CSF £3.26.

2.45 (2m hdle) 1, INDAMELODY (J Francome, 5-4 fav); 2, Bettyknowes (A Carroll, 16-1); 3, The Irish Rhine (Steve Knight, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Dholar (6th), 9-2 Try To Remember (4th), 8 Barrera Lad (5th), 33 Dick's Folly, Emlyn Princess. 8 ran. Neck, 2½l, 4, 2½, 20l. TOTE: £2.10; £1.30, £2.90, £1.60. DF: £11.80; CSF: £20.40.

3.15 (3m ch) 1, ACARINE (R Stronge, 7-4 fav); 2, Classified (P Croucher, 85-40); 3, Leander Blue (Scudamore, 85-40). ALSO RAN: 8-1 Fred Pilliner (4th), 25 Sugarally. 5 ran. 20l, 15l, 5l, 10l. P W Harris, at Berkhamsted. TOTE: £2.80; £1.10, £1.60. DF: £3.30. CSF: £5.89.

TOTE DOUBLE: £4.45. TREBLE: £7.20. JACKPOT: £140.80. PLACEPOT: £15.90.

2.00 (3m 100yds chase) 1, Castle Warden (P Barton, 11-2); 2, Good As Ever (11-8 fav); 3, Tar Knight (13-2). 1½l, 10l. 11 ran. NR: Reldis, Breac Ban. J A Edwards. TOTE: £10.10; £2.60, £1.50, £1.60. DF: £12.80. CSF: £14.68.

2.35 (2m 100yds chase) 1, River Rhein (G McCourt, 6-4 fav); 2, Landing Board (7-4); 3, Falkland Palace (3-1). 3l, 1l. 5 ran. NR: Bash Street Kid, Vale Challenge. J Webber. TOTE: £2.50; £1.50, £1.60. DF: £3.00. CSF: £4.77.

3.00 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Arapaho Prince (P Barton, 16-1); 2, Preacher's Gem (100-30); 3, Gee-A (9-4 jt-fav); Macedonian (9-4 jt-fav). ½l, nk. 15 ran. NR: Airwair. J A Edwards. TOTE: £23.40; £4.60, £1.40, £1.90. DF: £50.50. CSF: £72.90. PLACEPOT: £38.55.

Wetherby

Going: Good

12.30 (2m hdle) 1, PHOENIX GOLD (M Dwyer 4-7 fav); 2, Melhagen (A Brown 7-2); 3, Stone Jug (Mr G Harker 9-1). ALSO RAN: 8 Lisally (4th), 14 Seatel, 16 Gasool, Paddy Sleveen (5th), 25 Toronto Star, 33 Fair Mariner, 50 Heavenly Princess, Mandrake Honey, Tax Code (6th). 12 ran. 3l, 5l, 2l, 12l, 3l. J Fitzgerald at Malton. TOTE: £2.00; £1.40, £1.30, £1.60. DF: £2.40. CSF: £4.12.

1.00 (3m 100yd ch) 1, FORGIVE'N FORGET (M Dwyer 4-6 fav); 2, Phil The Fluter (P Tuck 9-4); 3, Don't Forget (C Pimlott 9-2). ALSO RAN: 20 Sunset Cristo. NR: Good Crack, Fortina's Express. 10l, 8l. J Fitzgerald at Malton. TOTE WIN: £1.50. DF: £1.40. CSF: £2.64.

1.35 (2m 4f hdle) 1, MISS APOLLO (J Goulding 9-1); 2, On Leave (Mr T Reed 7-4 fav); 3, Newlife Connection (R Lamb 10-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Ryecroft (4th), Eboracum, 6 Repington (6th), 10 Celtic Cracker (5th), 14 Prince Santiago, 20 Amantiss. 9 ran. NR: Rachel's Delight. 2l, 15l, 10l, ¾l, hd. Miss Z Green at Carlisle. TOTE: £8.50; £1.70, £1.60, £3.10. DF: £11.50. CSF: £28.19. Tricast: £158.84.

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Market Rasen

Going: soft

12.45 (abt 2m) 1, Bucksmaster Boy (M Brennan, 6-4 fav); 2, Orbital Manoeuvers (6-1); 3, Bernalyra (20-1). 8l, 10l. 11 ran. NR: Hot Betty, Mohar, Daring Prank, Record Supreme, Ribobelle. W Wharton. TOTE: £2.90; £1.50, £5.10, £3.50. DF: £32.50. CSF: £16.75.

1.15 (abt 2m) 1, Harbour Bazaar (J Barlow, 33-1); 2, Kelsey Lady (9-4); Kilroe's Calvin Evens fav. ½l. 5 ran. M C Chapman. TOTE: £25.10; £3.90, £1.50. DF: £28.20. CSF: £103.05.

1.45 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Randomly (Mr R J Beggan, 9-4 fav); 2, A T S Prince (10-1); 3, Pratiko (4-1); 4, Padykin (7-1). 20l, 3l. D Morrill. 17 ran. NR: Katie Bourne, Super Spark, High Old Time, Finale Sept. TOTE: £4.90; £1.60, £2.90, £1.80, £2.00. DF: £28.90. CSF: £31.67.

2.15 (3m ch) 1, Zamandra (R O'Leary, 15-8 jt fav); 2, Macoliver (13-8 jt fav); 3, Calderwell Case (16-1). 10l, 12l. 7 ran. NR: Misty Spirit. J Fitzgerald. TOTE: £2.40. £1.50, £1.60. DF: £3.20. CSF: £5.09.

2.45 (2m hdle) 1, Steel Venture (J McLaughlin, 3-1); 2, Tin Boy (6-1); 3, Collaroy (7-2). 1½l, 10l. 8 ran. NR: Maidega Elucidate M J Ryan. TOTE: £3.90; £1.30, £1.10, £1.80. DF: £4.70. CSF: £22.20.

3.15 (2m ch) 1, Kevinsfort (R O'Leary, 5-6 fav); 2, Percipient (8-1); 3, Vale Challenge (9-1). 8l, 25l. 4 ran. J G FitzGerald. TOTE: £1.90. DF: £2.90. CSF: £3.94. PLACEPOT: £88.85.

Newton Abbot

GOING: heavy

12.30 (2m 150yd chase): 1, Meldon Lady (L Bloomfield, 9-2); 2, Hypnosis (8-11 fav); 3, Morning Match (13-2). 2½l, 8l. 10 ran. T Hallett. TOTE £4.40; £1.40, £1.20, £1.30. D £2.70 CSF: £8.55.

1.00 (2m 5f chase): 1, Rogable (P Leach 2-1); 2, My Always (12-1); 3, Captain Pat (14-1). Hd, 12l. 12 ran. Golden Hornet (13-8 fav) 4th. NR: Fer-Kil, Perhaps Lucky. Tote £2.90; £1.80, £4.30, £4.70. DF £30.70. CS: £26.95.

1.30 (2m 5 f 110yd hdle): 1, Man On The Run (C Evans, 4-1); 2, Bolt The Gate (11-2); 3, Rawdy 4-1. Cornish Granite 6-4 fav. 10l, 20l. 7 ran. NR: Ninestones, Prince's Drive. J H Baker. Tote: £5.40; £2.30, £1.90. DF: £9.60. CSF: £25.98 Distances 10 lgths–20.

[illegible]

Wolverhampton

[illegible]

Wincanton

[illegible]

Sedgefield

[illegible]

Huntingdon

[illegible]

● Forgive N' Forget, easy winner of the Rowland Meyrick Handicap Chase at Wetherby yesterday, picked up an 8lb penalty for his next objective, the New Year Handicap Chase at Haydock Park.

● John Edwards completed a 109½-1 double at Huntingdon yesterday with Arapaho Prince in Division II of the St Ives Novices' Hurdle and Castle Warden in the Port Holme Handicap Chase.

HOCKEY: YORKSHIRE COME OFF WORST FROM BOXING DAY FIXTURE

Cheshire win and qualify

The traditional Boxing Day match between Lancashire and Cheshire, with all its familiar trappings, ended in a 2-0 victory for Cheshire (Sydney Friskin writes). Lancashire and Cheshire both qualified, however, for the national rounds of the county championship, leaving Yorkshire out in the cold.

The match was crucial for Cheshire, who had to win to survive. Lancashire could afford to lose, but not by more than three goals, in which case they would have let Yorkshire in. Yorkshire were overall county champions last year, beating Middlesex in the final.

Both goals for Cheshire were scored in the first half from centres by Buchan on the right wing, the first by Grimley and the second by Robbie Smith. The Lancashire defence held out well in the second period. The under-21 match between these counties ended in a 1-1 draw, King scoring for Cheshire and Sleigh for Lancashire.

The atmosphere was more relaxed at Cheam where the club President's XI were beaten 4-3 by the first XI. The president, Tony Bennet selected a team which he thought good enough to beat the Club XI prospects were bright when his side took a 2-0 lead by half-time. But the Club XI had other ideas and won the match in an exciting finish. Young, Cuthbert, Sudell and Milbourne scored for the Club XI: Cairns, Bowling and Cottrell for the President's XI.

The battle for northern territory

By Joyce Whitehead

South are the only territory who will not be home for New Year's Eve. They do not start their tournament until Saturday morning and end on New Year's Day. The other four tournaments finish on New Year's Eve.

North are the first to start and their matches will be played at Queen Mary's School, Lytham At Anne's. In the opening games, Cumberland play Lancashire Central League and Cheshire meet Westmoreland. Then follows one of two key matches, Lancashire against Yorkshire. Only one point separates Yorkshire from the leaders, Lancashire, and Cheshire, the holders, are one point below Yorkshire. The outcome could well depend on the Cheshire-Lancashire game

East, Midlands and West all start tomorrow. Midlands play on two separate grounds, Sydney Road and Polhill, both belonging to Bedford College of Higher Education. There, to make the numbers even, Bedford College join in. They have county status in the eyes of the Midlands but not nationally because Bedfordshire is the overall county. So five counties will each have a "friendly", when they play the colege at the tournament and the points will not count. Leicestershire are seven points in the lead; Warwickshire, who share nine points with Shropshire, Staffordshire and Nottinghamshire, have a match in hand. Shropshire open the tournament with a match against Bedfordshire.

The East tournament, at the Eurosposrts village, Shotley Gate, near Ipswich, presents a fascinating start with Cambridgeshire, the leaders by two points, playing Suffolk, the holders. Cambridgeshire have never been in this position before.

At the Cheltenham Ladies College Ground, Avon, the West leaders, look to have a favourable draw on the first three days, starting against Wiltshire, but they will be severely tested on the last day when they meet the holders, Somerset.

In the South, Middlesex and Buckinghamshire share top place with 12 points each. Surrey, Berkshire and Hampshire have four each, whereas Sussex and Oxfordshire have none.

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RACING: BROWNE'S GAZETTE CLEAR FAVOURITE FOR CHAMPION HURDLE AFTER EASY KEMPTON WIN

Combs Ditch takes champion to limit

By Michael Seely

Burrough Hill Lad beat Combs Ditch by a short head in one of the most thrilling finishes seen in the 38-year history of the King George VI Chase at Kempton Park yesterday. John Francome rode like a man inspired and Jenny Pitman's 1984 Cheltenham Gold Cup winner ramins an odds-on favourite to retain his crown next March after regaining the lead in the final stride.

"That was a great performance on a track that didn't suit him Francome said afterwards. "And I can't see anything to beat him at Cheltenham." Once again a crowd of over 20,000 packed the enclosures and jammed all the roads leading to the course.

The excitement rose to a crescendo as Burrough Hill Lad and Wayward Lad matched each other stride for stride at the early jumps. The moment of truth arrived six fences from home when Francome imperceptably increased the tempo.

Robert Earnshaw drew his whip two jumps later and the Dickinson family's hopes of capturing Kempton's rich prize for the sixth consecutive time had vanished as the leaders swung into the straight. "He stopped to nothing in a few strides and gurgled badly," the jockey said.

No sooner had Wayward Lad weakened than Colin Brown launched his attack on Combs Ditch. The challenger quickened to take a slight advantage as the pair landed on the flat, but the 2–1 on favourite than rallied and his stamina told close home.

David Elsworth has excelled himself in his handling of the runner-up, who had run so inexplicably badly behind Bregawn in the 1983 Gold Cup and who was not seen in public again until foiling a gamble on Indamelody over hurdles at Cheltenham earlier this month.

"I thought Colin rode a bad race." Elsworth complained afterwards. "He's a funny old horse but he knows him so well. It was marvellous to watch Combs Ditch lobbing along just behind the Gold Cup winner. I know it's not an easy thing to do over fences, but I wish he could *have delayed his* challenge a little longer. I know we were the best horse on the day."

The trainer is almost certainly being hypercritical, but racing is a tough game and Elsworth has laboured hard and patiently for *18 months* with his old favourite. "I'm looking forward to taking the winner on again at Cheltenham", he concluded. "They say the course suits Borough Hill Lad well. But as you've all seen in the past Combs Ditch likes it just as much."

So Mrs Pitman's triumphant march forward continues. This outstanding trainer also appears to like criticizing her jockeys. In a post-race television interview she took Francome to task for making too much use of the *winner. However the champion* was more than a match for his inquisitor. "I can't do right. She said I hit the front far too soon in the Hennessy and now she's getting at me again. I think she'd better ride the horse *herself in future*."

On a more serious note the trainer said that Borough Hill Lad would now be rested after his early-season exertions. "I'll probably give him two runs before the National Hunt *Festival including the Jim Ford* Challenge Cup at Wincanton."

Monica Dickinson and her son, Michael, were among the first to congratulate Mrs Pitman. The former champion trainer had come out of *temporary retirement for a day* to lend a helping hand. "There's something seriously wrong with Wayward Lad," Mrs Dickinson said. "We'll have to have a proper examination and a series of tests taken."

Earlier in the afternoon supporters of Harewood had been given plenty to shout about when Browne's Gazette had galloped his way into clear favouritism for the Champion *Hurdle with an exhilarating* display in the Ladbroke Christmas Hurdle.

Reunited with his regular partner, Dermot Browne, who was having his first mount in public since his accident at Sedgefield three weeks ago, the six-year-old mastered the front-running Desert Orchid between the last two flights and quickly sprinted clear to win by 15 lengths.

Mrs Dickinson was naturally thrilled with this performance. "We thought that Browne's Gazette had improved a lot since Cheltenham," she said, "and now he's proved it decisively. We'll only give him one more race before March, probably in the City Trial Hurdle at Nottingham."

The 2-1 on offer with Joe Coral is the longest price available for the championship about yesterday's winner.



Peter Scudamore rouses Gainsay on the run-in to win Kempton's Port Wine Chase. Gratification (far side) dropped back to third, landing John Francome with a £50 fine for failing to ride out (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Raise a glass to King's Jug

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

The emphatic way that Lefrac City beat Kilbrittain Castle to win the Isis Handicap Chase at Wincanton yesterday can only be construed as a pointer to the seemingly excellent chance that King's Jug (nap) has of winning the Stanton Conditional Jockeys Handicap Chase at Wolverhampton today. He will be in the hands of that accomplished young horseman, Gareth Charles-Jones.

At Wincanton in November King's Jug defeated Lefrac City by four lengths. In the meantime, he has confirmed that he is on his way up the ladder by winning a similar race to today's at Cheltenham where he was also partnered by the man who rides him this afternoon.

Still at Wolverhampton, there must be a good chance that the Stafford Handicap Chase will be won by Master Tercel, whose trainer, John Spearing, won a similar race at the Midlands course yesterday with another of his steeplechasers, Run and Skip, who has still to be defeated this season. But for slipping up on the flat approaching the third last fence at Sandown Park in November, Master Tercel might also be able to boast the same record because he had won his other two races at *Worcester and Sandown nicely*.

After his double on Burrough Hill Lad and Indamelody at Kempton Park yesterday, John Francome should be in precisely the right frame of mind to win both the Kennington Novices' Chase and the Ladbroke Handicap Chase for Fred Winter on The Reject and Carved Opal respectively. I fancy The Reject in particular. He has looked a budding young chaser at Newbury *and Lingfield Park this season*.

After winning snugly at Huntingdon Carved Opal then fell at the third last fence of the Kennedy Construction Gold Cup at Cheltenham for which he startd favourite. At the time, it was impossible to say categorically whether he would have beaten the eventual winner, Beau Ranger. Winter has spoken his mind by deciding to take Beau Ranger on again on the same terms and I am *happy to go along with him*.

After conjuring such a brilliant performance out of Combs Ditch at Kepton yesterday, nothing seems beyond David Elsworth and Colin Brown, whose hopes of winning the Feltham Novices' Steeplechase are pinned on Buckbe. This good hurdler of last season has taken to jumping fences alright, but not well enough to convince me that she will beat Darc Hansel, who won twice over today's course before running the crack Irish novice, Hard Case, so close at Cheltenham earlier this month.

New dope alert at holiday meetings

Racing security officers in Britain and Ireland yesterday mounted a special dope watch at race meetings. As the busy festive racing period got underway, there was a special alert for a sophisticated horse-doping gang who are believed to have pulled off some major betting coups during the last two National Hunt seasons in the Irish Republic.

Investigators believe the gang may also be linked to recent suspect performances by fancied horses in England. Racing authorities believe a number of fancied runners were "got at" during the past year by a gang using a substance impossible to trace under existing dope-test procedures.

The Irish racing authorities have provided a list of named suspects – including that of a big-money punter – to police. No court action has been possible so far because of insufficient evidence.

Experts believe the drug has to be administered shortly before the race. It is quick acting, short lived and takes effect after the horse has run about a mile or a mile and a half. When it takes effect the horse becomes distressed, and consequently finishes well down the field. But the effect soon wears off and there is no trace left by the time blood samples are taken for analysis.

A former Irish trainer who is now a vet said: "One minute alone with a horse is all that's needed. A local anaesthetic introduced to the horse's nostrils or throat could restrict its breathing. It would have the same effect as a dentist's anaesthetic. That doesn't take effect immediately and wears off soon after the tooth is extracted".

One leading Dublin bookmaker said: "The gang didn't go to the market too often, but when they did thousands of pounds were taken out of the ring. I have kept a check. When a fancied horse lost and showed symptoms of distress I've noticed that another horse, usually the winner, has been heavily backed".

KEMPTON PARK (Ch4)

[Televised: 12.40 (recording), 1.10, 1.40, 2.10]

GOING: good to soft

Tote double: 1.40, 2.40. Treble: 1.10, 2.10, 3.10.

12.40 KENNINGTON NOVICES CHASE (£1,873: 2m) (6 runners)

102 110-311 THE REJECT (D) (T Ludlow) F Winter 5-11-10 J Francome
103 2224-1 ROADSTER (D) (C Nash) C Nash 5-11-6 R Dennessy
105 0250-21 THE FOODBROKER (D) (Food Brokers) P Haynes 8-11-5 A Webb
106 0-40 AREN'T WE ALL (T Thom) J Bridger 5-11-0
107 412-212 BOLANDS CROSS (BF) (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) N Gaselee 5-11-0 A Jones 7
110 00024-0 TWO EAGLES (S Steinberg) R Armytage 5-11-0 NON-RUNNER

1983: River Rhein 6-11-5 Mr G Mernagh (7-1) J Webber 18 ran.

4-6 The Reject, 7-2 The Foodbroker, 4 Roadster, 33 others.

FORM: THE REJECT (11-7) 12l Lingfield winner from Pollardstown (11-0) (2m ch, £1,818, soft, Dec 8, 8 ran). ROADSTER (11-4) beat Pinnacle Tree (10-13) 2l at Warwick (2m ch, £1,217, heavy, Dec 14, 12 ran). THE FOODBROKER (11-0) (2m ch, £1,277, heavy, Dec 18, 14 ran). BOLANDS CROSS (10-11) 8l 2nd of 17 to Goosey Gander (10-8) at Sandown (2m 5f hdle, £3,081, good to soft, Dec 31).
Selection: THE REJECT

1.10 LADBROKE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE QUALIFIER (£2,379: 2m) (15)

202 0 SNOWBALL JIM (Y Tarrant) A Moore 4-12-0
203 022-212 BURANPOUR (E Wernicke) A Jarvis 4-11-10 J Francome
204 341180 CHARCOAL WALLY (D) (J Murrell) R Hodges 5-11-9 P Croucher
205 02334-0 FIRING PARTY (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) F Winter 7-11-8 R Linley
208 0b0-234 RIDGEFIELD (R Douglas) D Thom 6-11-6 Mr D Murphy 4
210 020-02 TOUR DE FORCE (D) (Mrs D Strauss) P Haslam 4-11-3 S Smith Eccles
212 0/3p-pp COASTAL RUN (S Chapman) P Mitchell 5-11-2 –
218 0-12100 WELSH OAK (D) (G Amey) D Gandolfo 4-10-12 R Earnshaw
219 /300-12 BOSSANOVA BOY (D) (R Henley) P Makin 5-10-11 P Barton
220 011 DOVER (D) (J Geraghty) M H Easterby 4-10-11 A Brown
222 0-04 BEECH COPSE (Mrs C Williams) A Turnell 5-10-7 Steve Knight
224 0-01023 WINART (Mrs V Taylor) R Hodges 6-10-7 S Earle 7
226 /000-30 BUNTER (F Crouch) A Moore 6-10-1 G Moore
227 00pp- PROMINDANTE (S Tindall) S Mellor 4-10-1 M Perrett
228 f0/43p- ADMINISTRATOR (H O'Neill) H O'Neill 7-10-0 M Hammond

1983: Grockle 6-11-1 H Davies (6-1) D Barons 13 ran.

5 Dover, 11-2 Buranpour, 6 Bossanova Boy, 7 Firing Party, 8 Tour De Force, Beech Copse, 10 Winart, 12 Welsh Oak, 16 others.

FORM: BURANPOUR (11-0) ¾l 2nd of 15 to Meister (11-5) at Cheltenham (2m 4f hdle, £1,514, good to soft, Dec 7). FIRING PARTY (11-0) led from the 6th till headed and blundering at the last. *TOUR DE FORCE, 1½l 2nd, RIDGEFIELD (11-2) further 2l away in 3rd*, WELSH OAK (13-13) another 10l back in 6th and CHARCOAL WALLY (11-7) 9th after leading momentarily 2 out. In Sandown novice handicap won by Gold Of A Gunner (10-5) (2m hdle, £2,481, good to soft, Nov 30, 18 ran). COASTAL RUN (11-0) was pulled up. BOSSAOVA BOY (11-7) 7l 2nd of 17 to Clara Mountain (11-7) at Towcester (2m hdle, £834, good to soft, Dec 15). DOVER (11-5) 5l Market Rasen scorer from Demonic (11-0) (2m hdle, £1,288, soft, Nov 24, 7 ran).
Selection: TOUR DE FORCE

Kempton selections

By Mandarin

12.40 The Reject. 1.10 Dover. 1.40 Carved Opal. 2.10 Darc Hansel. 2.40 Star Of Screen. 3.10 Pukka Major.

By Michael Seely

1.10 Dover. 1.40 LEAN AR AGHAIDH (nap).

1.40 LADBROKE HANDICAP CHASE (£4,588: 2m 4f) (4)

303 21p2-1f CARVED OPAL (CD) (BF) (Mrs G Abecassis) F Winter 6-11-7 J Francome
306 112p-41 LEAN AR AGHAIDH (CD) (Mrs W Tulloch) S Mellor 7-11-3 (4 ex) M Perrett
311 20/111- HOMESON (D) (H Corboz) J Gifford 7-10-11 R Rowe
312 0-11111 BEAU RANGER (D) (White Bros Ltd) J Thorne 6-10-7 (8 ex) J Hurst 7

1983: The Tsarevich 7-11-9 Mr J White (5-2) N Henderson 6 ran.

6-4 Beau Ranger, 5-2 Lean Ar Aghaidh, 7-2 Carved Opal, 5 Homeson.

FORM: LEAN AR AGHAIDH (11-10) 8l Cheltenham winner from Gambir (2m 4f ch, £2,540, good to soft, Dec 7, 8 ran). HOMESON last ran in November 1983 when 15l Newton Abbot scorer (11-9) from Pampas Melody (11-0) (2m 5f ch, £4,585, good to soft, Nov 29, 14 ran). BEAU RANGER penalised 6lb for 4l Cheltenham defeat (10-3) of Classified (11-7), when CARVED OPAL (11-3 apeared to have every chance when falling 3 out (2m 4f ch, £12,455, good to soft, Dec 8, 10 ran). Previously CARVED OPAL (11-9) 2½l Huntingdon winner from Kathies Lad (11-9) (2m 4f ch, £3,609, good, Nov 27, 5 ran).
Selection: BEAU RANGER

2.10 FELTHAM NOVICES CHASE (*Grade 2: £7,063: 3m*) (3)

402 41-112 DARC HANSEL (C) (Mrs G Morris-Adams) N Gaselee 6-11-4 S Smith Eccles
403 b0-10f1 BUCKBE (R Tory) D Elsworth 5-11-2 C Brown
405 1f00-pu CATCH PHRASE (K Carr) J Gifford 6-11-0 R Rowe

1983: Duke Of Milan 6-11-4 P Scudamore (9-4) N Gaselee 6 ran.

5-4 Darc Hansel, 6-4 Buckbe, 9-2 Catch Phrase.

FORM: DARC HANSEL (11-11) ¾l 2nd of 5 to Hard Case (11-6) at Cheltenham (3m 1f ch, £4464, good to soft, Dec 8). BUCKBE (10-8) 7l Ascot winner from Sign Again (10-12) (2m 4f ch, £5472, good to soft, Dec 15, 6 ran). CATCH PHRASE (11-5) 5th when falling 4 out in Cheltenham chase *won by Lean Ar Aghaidh (11-10) (2m 4f ch, £2548, good to soft, Dec 7, 8 ran)*.
Selection: DARC HANSEL.

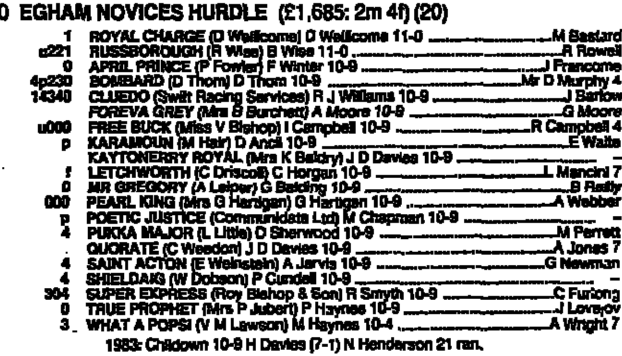
2.40 AVENUE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,683: 2m 4f) (8)

507 01-1140 COUNTY PLAYER (D) (Mrs Y Sivter) Mrs S Oliver 7-11-7 J Bryan
509 100-30f STAR OF SCREEN (Mrs J Dyson) J Edwards 4-11-5 P Barton
511 00-1101 GEMBRIDGE JUPITER (D) (A Carver) C Trietline 6-11-4 (7 ex) J Francome
514 1200-24 INCHGOWER (CD) (Miss D Downes) W Wightman 7-10-9 M Caswell 4
515 f1-1101 CHRYSAOR (D) (P Fahey) S Christian 6-10-7 (4 ex) –
517 /142-42 THE IRISH RHINE (D) (D Wilson) D Wilson 6-10-1 –
520 10-1300 ALLIED NEWCASTLE (BF) (Allied Mfg Co North-East) D Elsworth 4-10-0 C Brown
521 /00-000 HIGH HEAVEN (J Heal) A Moore 6-10-0 G Moore

1983: no corresponding race.

11-4 Chrysaor, 3 Gembridge Jupiter, 4 Star Of Screen, 11-2 The Irish Rhine, 8 County Player, 10 Inchgower, 14 others.

FORM: COUNTY PLAYER, tailed off last time, earlier (16-13) ¾l Ascot winner from Amrullah (10-7) (2m 4 hdle, £2540, good, Oct 31, 22 ran). STAR OF SCREEN (13-8) 2nd and every chance when *fell two out in Ascot race won by Kristenson (13-8) (3m 2f hdle, £7018, good to soft, Dec 15, 11* ran). GEMBRIDGE JUPITER (13-12) 1½l Nottingham winner from Orchid Bay (10-8) (2m 6f hdle, £3844, good, Dec 8, 9 ran). INCHGOWER (10-8) 11l 4th of 15 to Bolands Cross (18-5) at Newbury (2m 4f 120yd hdle, £2302, heavy, Nov 23, 15 ran). CHRYSAOR (10-9) 8l Ascot scorer from Maganyos (11-7) (2m 4f hdle, £1233, good to soft, Dec 15, 16 ran). THE IRISH RHINE (11-1) 1l 2nd *of 18 to Polish (10-8) at Southwell, (2m 4f hdle, £1318, good to soft, Dec 13.*
Selection: CHRYSAOR.



3.10 EGHAM NOVICES HURDLE (£1,685: 2m 4f) (20)

601 1 ROYAL CHARGE (D Wellcome) D Wellcome 11-0 M Bastard
602 u221 RUSSBOROUGH (R Wise) B Wise 11-0 R Rowell
603 0 APRIL PRINCE (P Fowler) F Winter 10-9 J Francome
607 4p230 BOMBARD (D Thom) D Thom 10-9 Mr D Murphy 4
609 14340 CLUEDO (Swift Racing Services) R J Williams 10-9 J Barlow
611 FOREVA GREY (Mrs B Burchett) A Moore 10-9 G Moore
612 u000 FREE BUCK (Miss V Bishop) I Campbell 10-9 R Campbell 4
617 p KARAMOUN (M Hair) D Ancil 10-9 E Waite
618 KAYTONERRY ROYAL (Mrs K Baldry) J D Davies 10-9 –
619 f LETCHWORTH (C Driscoll) C Horgan 10-9 L Mancini 7
621 0 MR GREGORY (A Leipar) G Balding 10-9 B Reilly
623 000 PEARL KING (Mrs G Hartigan) G Hartigan 10-9 A Webber
624 p POETIC JUSTICE (Communidata Ltd) M Chapman 10-9 –
625 4 PUKKA MAJOR (L Little) D Sherwood 10-9 M Perrett
626 . QUORATE (C Weedon) J D Davies 10-9 A Jones 7
627 4 SAINT ACTON (E Weinstein) A Jarvis 10-9 G Newman
628 4 SHIELDAIG (W Dobson) P Cundell 10-9 –
631 304 SUPER EXPRESS (Roy Bishop & Son) R Smyth 10-9 C Furlong
632 0 TRUE PROPHET (Mrs P Jubert) P Haynes 10-9 J Lovejoy
637 3 WHAT A POPSI (V M Lawson) M Haynes 10-4 A Wright 7

1983: Childown 10-9 H Davies (7-1) N Henderson 21 ran.

3 Pukka Major, 4 April Prince, 5 Royal Charge, 6 Super Express, 8 Russborough, 10 Saint Acton, 12 What A Popsi, 14 Sheildaig, 20 others.

FORM: ROYAL CHARGE (10-10) 5l Warwick winner from Malakand (10-10) (2m hdle, £597, heavy, Dec 14, 23 ran). RUSSBOROUGH (11-0) 16l 4th of 10 to Beat The Retreat (11-3) at Lingfield (2m *hdle, £4855, heavy, Dec 8). PUKKA MAJOR (11-0) never nearer 20l 4th and* APRIL PRINCE (11-0), another 18l adrift in 6th behind Wing And A Prayer (11-3) at Cheltenham (2m hdle, £4123, good to soft, Dec 8, 13 ran). SUPER EXPRESS (11-0) 16l 4th of 12 to Beat The Retreat (11-4) at Sandown ¼m hdle, £5951, good to soft, Dec 1). WHAT A POPSI (10-5) beaten 10l in 3rd by Woodway (10-10) at Warwick (2m hdle, £555, heavy, Dec 14, 25 ran).
Selection: SUPER EXPRESS.

Course specialists

KEMPTON

TRAINERS: F Winter 47 winners from 173 runners, 27.2%; S Mellor 8 from 36, 22.2%; J Gifford 18 from 147, 12.2%.
JOCKEYS: Francome 42 winners from 183 rides, 23.0%; S Smith Eccles 16 from 92, 17.4%; R Rowe 19 from 119, 16.0%.

WETHERBY

TRAINERS: M H Easterby 45 winners from 172 runners, 26.2%; W A Stephenson 36 from 264, 13.6%; Denys Smith 15 from 113, 13.3%.
JOCKEYS: D Browne 12 winners from 26 rides, 46.2%; G Bradley 12 from 55, 21.8%; R Lamb 25 from 162, 15.4%.

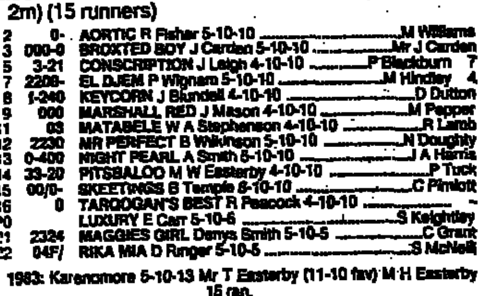
WOLVERHAMPTON

TRAINERS: Mrs M Rimell 21 winners from 78 runners, 26.9%; J Spearing 7 from 39, 17.9%; J *Edwards 12 from 68, 17.6%*.
JOCKEYS: P Scudamore 31 winners from 121 rides, 25.6%; S Morshead 27 from 121 rides 22.3%; J J O'Neill 8 from 36, 22.2%.



Fred Winter: leading trainer at Kempton today

WETHERBY



GOING: good (inspection 7.30 am)

12.30 BRADFORD NOVICES' HURDLE (Div I: £548: 2m) (15 runners)

2 0- AORTIC R Fisher 5-10-10 M Williams
3 000-0 BROXTED BOY J Carden 5-10-10 Mr J Carden
5 3-21 CONSCRIPTION J Leigh 4-10-10 P Blackburn 7
7 2208- EL DJEM P Wigham 5-10-10 M Hindley 4
8 f-240 KEYCORN J Blundell 4-10-10 D Dutton
9 000 MARSHALL RED J Mason 4-10-10 M Pepper
11 03 MATABELE W A Stephenson 4-10-10 R Lamb
12 2230 MR PERFECT B Wilkinson 5-10-10 N Doughty
13 0-400 NIGHT PEARL A Smith 5-10-10 J A Harris
14 33-20 PITSBALOO M W Easterby 4-10-10 P Tuck
15 00/0- SKEETINGS B Temple 6-10-10 C Pimlott
16 0 TARGOGAN'S BEST R Peacock 4-10-10 –
20 LUXURY E Carr 5-10-5 S Keightley
21 2324 MAGGIES GIRL Denys Smith 5-10-5 C Grant
22 04F/ RIKA MIA D Ringer 5-10-5 S McNeill

1983: Karenomore 5-10-13 Mr T Easterby (11-10 fav) M H Easterby 15 ran.

7-4 Conscription, 7-2 Pitsbaloo, 9-2 Maggies Girl, 5 Matabele, 6 Luxury, 8 Mr Perfect, 10 El Djem, 14 others.

1.0 ST JOHN AMBULANCE NOVICES' CHASE (£2,325: 2m 50yd) (7)

3 01-41 DURHAM EDITION W A Stephenson 6-11-5 R Lamb
4 1f22 GOLDEN FANCY I Vickers 7-11-5 P Tuck
6 1232 SULA BULA (B) M H Easterby 6-11-5 G Bradley
7 22-22 ABU TORKEY J Blundell 7-11-0 D Dutton
9 4333 DAWN DIVER N Crump 7-11-0 D Wilkinson
12 00-03 SWORD GAME W Fairgrieve 8-11-0 T G Dun
15 p-001 MOUNT ST MARY'S M Camacho 5-10-9 R Forsyth

1983: B and K Emperor 6-10-10 Mr R J Beggan (11-8 fav) M W Easterby 9 ran.

15-8 Sula Bula, 5-2 Durham Edition, 4 Abu Torkey, 5 Golden Fancy, 10 Dawn Diver, 16 others.

1.35 KNARESBOROUGH HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,609: 3m) (9)

1 03-p0 MOSSMORRAN (CD) A Scott 5-11-10 P A Charlton
2 0423 CROSS MASTER T Bill 7-11-3 –
3 f-010 CAMINO CRYSTAL (B) S Christian 8-11-0 –
4 000-0 SIMBAD (D) R Fisher 8-10-6 M Williams
5 1100 SHIRLEY GROVE (D) P Bevan 8-10-2 –
6 1111 THREE SHINERS C Parker 8-10-2 B Storey
7 003-0 LE SARTHOIS Mrs S Davenport 7-10-0 N Doughty
8 0320 JOE'S FANCY P Liddle 6-10-0 G W Gray
9 0014 RUN IN TUNE (C) D Eddy 5-10-0 (5 ex) C Pimlott

1983: Mossmorran 4-11-0 G Bradley (100-30 fav) A Scott 17 ran.

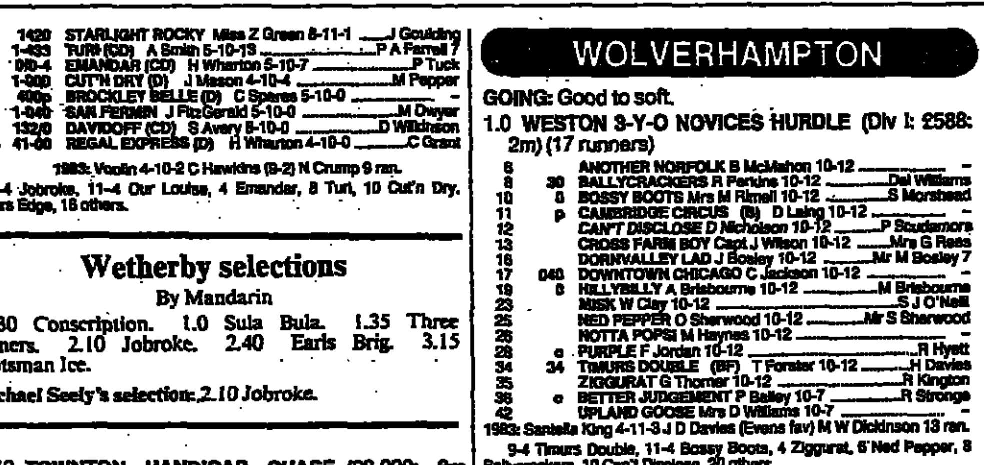
5-2 Three Shiners, 7-2 Cross Master, 9-2 Camino Crystal, 5 Mossmoran, 8 Run In Tune, 10 Le Sarthois, Shirley Grove, 16 others.

2.10 LONG MARSTON HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,569: 2m) (12)

4 p3p-0 CRACKHILL (CD) Miss S Hall 5-11-9 K Teelan
5 3111 JOBROKE (CD) M H Easterby 4-11-7 (7 ex) Mr T Easterby
6 2-340 RIVERS EDGE (D) Denys Smith 6-11-8 C Grant
7 1211 OUR LOUISE (D) A Scott 5-11-2 (7 ex) P A Charlton
8 1420 STARLIGHT ROCKY Miss Z Green 8-11-1 J Goulding
10 1-433 TURI (CD) A Smith 5-10-13 P A Farrell 7
12 0/0-4 EMANDAR (CD) H Wharton 5-10-7 P Tuck
14 1-000 CUT'N DRY (D) J Mason 4-10-4 M Pepper
15 400p BROCKLEY BELLE (D) C Spares 5-10-0 –
16 1-040 SAN FERMIN J FitzGerald 5-10-0 M Dwyer
17 132/0 DAVIDOFF (CD) S Avery 8-10-0 D Wilkinson
18 41-00 REGAL EXPRESS (D) H Wharton 4-10-0 C Grant

1983: Voolin 4-10-2 C Hawkins (9-2) N Crump 9 ran.

7-4 Jobroke, 11-4 Our Louise, 4 Emandar, 8 Turi, 10 Cut'n Dry, Rivers Edge, 16 others.



Wetherby selections

By Mandarin

12.30 Conscription. 1.0 Sula Bula. 1.35 Three Shiners. 2.10 Jobroke. 2.40 Earls Brig. 3.15 Scotsman Ice.

Michael Seely's selection: *2.10 Jobroke*.

2.40 TOWNTON HANDICAP CHASE (£3,220: 3m 100yd) (9)

3 1ua2 EARLS BRIG (CD) (BF) W Hamilton 9-11-7 P Tuck
4 112-0 GOOD CRACK (CD) J Hanson 7-11-1 C Pimlott
6 13-p4 PRINCE ROWAN Mrs M Dickinson 8-11-0 G Bradley
7 112-0 GREAT HEAD BOY R Fisher 7-10-8 M Meagher 4
8 1111 BLUE REEF (CD) W A Stephenson 9-10-8 (9 ex) Mr P J Dun
10 2123 DONEGAL PRINCE P Kelleway 8-10-2 –
12 4-000 BUSH GUIDE J Alder 8-10-1 Mrs V Jackson 4
14 p-p0p NARVIK (B) N Crump 11-10-0 D Wilkinson
15 1114 BOOK OF KELLS (BF) J Blundell 9-10-0 D Dutton

1983: Torreon 7-11-1 J J O'Neill (2-1 fav) M H Easterby 11 ran.

2 Prince Rowan, 3 Blue Reef, 5 Good Crack, 6 Earls Brig, 10 Great Head Boy, 12 Book of Kells, *14 Donegal Prince, 16 others*.

3.15 BRADFORD NOVICES' HURDLE (Div II: £548: 2m) (15)

1 00-01 CAMP KELPIE *P Wilkinson 5-10-12* Mr G Harker 7
2 212 SCOTSMAN ICE (D) (BF) J FitzGerald 4-10-12 M Dwyer
4 0 BARSBRIDGE LAD R Spicer 4-10-10 S Johnson
5 0 BISHOP'S ROYAL A Potts 4-10-10 J Hansen 4
7 DREADNOUGHT J Carden 4-10-10 Mr J Carden
8 DROMODAN M H Easterby 4-10-10 D Dutton
9 0 ELUCIDATE (BF) Ron Thompson 5-10-10 Jayne Thompson 7
10 0000- GOOD PERFORMER J Dooler 5-10-10 M Pepper
12 p-00b JONJA THYME D Ringer 7-10-10 S McNeill
14 0-000 KING'S HOLT N Waggott 5-10-10 –
15 0 MAUNBY PRINCE (BF) T Barron 5-10-10 P Tuck
17 0/002 RAMPANT R E Barr 5-10-10 P A Farrell 7
18 SHERALAM Mrs M Dickinson 5-10-10 G Bradley
19 003 THE BUILDER Mrs G Reveley 5-10-10 N Doughty
20 2-003 RIBBONS OF BLUE J Watts 4-10-5 D Browne

1983: Browne's Gazette 5-10-13 Mr D Browne (10-11 fav) M W Dickinson 17 ran.

9-4 Sheralam, 3 Scotsman Ice, 4 Ribbons of Blue, 9-2 Dromodan, 7 Camp Kelpie, 12 Rampant, 16 others.

WOLVERHAMPTON

GOING: Good to soft.

1.0 WESTON 3-Y-O NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: £588: 2m) (17 runners)

6 ANOTHER NORFOLK B McMahon 10-12 –
8 30 BALLYCRACKERS R Perkins 10-12 Dal Williams
10 0 BOSSY BOOTS Mrs M Rimell 10-12 S Morshead
11 p CAMBRIDGE CIRCUS (B) D Laing 10-12 –
12 CAN'T DISCLOSE D Nicholson 10-12 P Scudamore
13 CROSS FARM BOY Capt J Wilson 10-12 Mrs G Rees
16 DORNVALLEY LAD J Bosley 10-12 Mr M Bosley 7
17 040 DOWNTOWN CHICAGO C Jackson 10-12 –
19 0 HILLYBILLY A Brisbourne 10-12 M Brisbourne
23 MISK W Clay 10-12 S J O'Neill
25 NED PEPPER O Sherwood 10-12 Mr S Sherwood
26 NOTTA POPSI M Haynes 10-12 –
28 o PURPLE F Jordan 10-12 R Hyett
34 34 TIMURS DOUBLE (BF) T Forster 10-12 H Davies
35 ZIGGURAT G Thorner 10-12 R Kington
36 o BETTER JUDGEMENT P Bailey 10-7 R Stronge
42 UPLAND GOOSE Mrs D Williams 10-7 –

1983: Santella King 4-11-3 J D Davies (Evens fav) M W Dickinson 13 ran.

9-4 Timurs Double, 11-4 Bossy Boots, 4 Ziggurat, 6 Ned Pepper, 8 Ballycrackers, 10 Can't Disclose, 20 others.

1.30 STANTON CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (£1,142: 2m) (7)

1 2041 *BORN TO SHINE (D) M Castell 9-12-13 (7 ex)* M Bowlby 5
2 2211 KING'S JUG (D) Mrs M Rimell 6-11-13 (7 ex) G Charles-Jones
8 p034 POMPOSITY (D) R Smith 7-10-3 –
9 3003 LITTLE TROUBLE (D) C Hitchings 8-10-1 –
11 34p4 FRA MAU Lady S Brooks 8-10-0 –
12 o234 THE SURVEYOR (D) R Hollinshead 8-10-10 D Carcary 5
15 0802 DEE PARK M James 9-10-0 P Finch 5

1983: Ledbury Lad 6-11-2 B Powell (6-1) M Wilesmith 9 ran.

5-4 King's Jug, 5-2 Born to Shine, 6 The Surveyor, 8 Dee Park, 10 Little Trouble, 15 others.

2.0 STAFFORD HANDICAP CHASE (£1,569: 3m) (8)

2 4-123 LORENTINO (C) R Francis 7-11-10 –
5 223-0 LAURENSUN (D) M Oliver 9-11-6 Mr J Weston
8 1-111 MASTER TERCEL (D) J Spearing 8-11-1 S Morshead
12 p-000 MOOR CLOSE (D) P Felgate 10-10-8 J O'Neill
13 1000 BRAVE JACK (D) Mrs W Sykes 8-10-7 –
15 0422 VELESO (B) J King 6-10-5 –
26 4/020 ERNEST B Cambridge 12-10-0 Mr J Cambridge 4
27 000/ MEENACHRANE G Barlow 8-10-0 S J O'Neill

1983: (3m 2f) Tania's Lad 9-10-9 R Crank (4-1) W D Francis 8 ran.

7-4 Lorentino, 9-4 Veleso, 9-2 Master Tercel, 8 Brave Jack, 10 Ernest, 12 Laurensun, 16 others.

2.30 ASTBURY TROPHY NOVICES' CHASE (£2,676: 2m 4f) (10)

1 0211 CROWECOPPER (D) B Preece 5-11-8 R Stronge
6 2-223 CONNAUGHT RIVER D Nicholson 5-10-10 P Scudamore
9 up32 EMMASON (BF) J Spearing 9-10-10 S Morshead
11 0f-00 MAGIC MOUSE J Colston 8-10-10 Mr T Stephenson 7
12 MELADON R Hollinshead 11-10-10 J O'Neill
13 024-f MISTER BEE K Bailey 8-10-10 –
15 0p/0p MR PRESIDENT WEAR C Trietline 7-10-10 A Sharpe
19 21-f0 CAPE MANDY R Holder 7-10-5 P Richards
20 f0p/p COSMIC OCCASION (B) M Reid 9-10-5 –
22 34p4 FRA MAU Lady S Brooks 8-10-5 NON-RUNNER

1983: West Tip 6-11-3 Mr J Weston (2-5 fav) M Oliver 8 ran.

6-4 Crowecopper, 7-2 Connaught River, 4 Emmason, 8 Meladon, 10 Mister Bee, 12 Cape Mandy, 20 others.

Wolverhampton selections

By Mandarin

1.0 Timurs Double. 1.30 KINGS JUG (nap). 2.0 Master Tercel. 2.30 Crowecopper. 3.0 Mossy Bell. 3.30 Shipwright.

3.0 AL:BRIGHTON HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,088: 2m 6f) (14)

2 1f12- TRUST THE KING Mrs J Barrow 7-12-0 Peter Hoggs
10 3302 WYE LEA (C,BF) J Edwards 5-10-11 H Davies
15 02-00 LORIOT G Thorner 7-10-5 R Kington
16 0410- FURZEN HILL J King 6-10-5 J J O'Neill
18 02-03 MOSSY BELL R Holder 4-10-4 N Coleman 4
20 00-30 SMALL MONEY Mrs W Sykes 5-10-3 –
21 0-040 RHEINFORD J Old 6-10-3 P Murphy
22 u201 GRUNDY GLOW Mrs J Pitman 4-10-12 (6 ex) –
25 3220 MESA KID W Clay 5-10-0 S J O'Neill
26 200-f ELSELL (C) M Eckley 9-10-0 A O'Hagen
30 4-132 RACHEL'S DELIGHT (C,BF) D Morrill 5- NON-RUNNER
31 00-11 RANDOMLY (D) D Morrill 5-10-0 NON-RUNNER
32 0043 FEELS RIGHT D Nicholson 4-10-0 P Scudamore
38 0440 PAPERACER B Preece 5-10-0 R Stronge

1983: Nimble Dove 7-11-8 C M Price (10-1) G H Price 19 ran.

7-2 Grundy Glow, 6 Feels Right, 8 Wye Lea, 10 Mossy Bell, 12 Trust The King, Loriot, 20 others.

3.30 WESTON 3-Y-O NOVICES HURDLE (Div II: £605: 2m) (17)

1 1030 BALUCHI (D,B) B Preece 11-5 R Stronge
4 010 TINKERSFIELD J Old 11-5 G McCourt
5 0 ABJAD W Morris 10-12 W Morris 4
8 BETABLEND Capt J Wilson 10-12 Mrs G Rees
13 FIRE BAY W Musson 10-12 C Smith
16 p GASTRONOMIC N Davies 10-12 Mr S Sherwood
19 2220 KARNATAK (BF) J Spearing 10-12 S Morshead
20 2 MIRAMAC F Lee 10-12 –
22 PASTING J Dalton 10-12 –
26 SHIPWRIGHT R Hollinshead 10-12 J O'Neill
29 00 VIDEO LAD B Preece 10-12 P Warner
30 WELSH SPY J Smith 10-12 N Fearn 7
31 p0 ANGELA'S GIRL R Griffiths 10-7 A O'Hagen
33 402 GRIMSON SOL (BF) G Thorner 10-7 R Kington
35 u ENSIGN'S SECRET (B) A Brisbourne 10-7 M Brisbourne
37 LLAWNROC J Perrett 10-7 J Nolan
42 VERA REPPIN Mrs C Lloyd-Jones 10-7 S J O'Neill

1983: Star Of Screen 4-10-10 N Madden (14-1) J Edwards 17 ran.

11-4 Crimson Sol, 7-2 Miramac, 9-2 Tinkersfield, 6 Baluchi, 8 Shipwright, 10 Fire Bay, 12 Karnatak, 20 others.

Law Report December 27, 1984

Citizenship granted by estoppel

Gowa and Others v Attorney General

Before Lord Justice Stephenson, Lord Justice Lloyd and Sir David Cairns

[Judgment delivered December 20]

It was in the public interest that the servants of the Crown should speak with one voice and speak the truth, and that when responsible officers made mistakes which misled members of the public and injured them the courts should redress the injury, if that was possible without doing harm to others, in particular in such a case as the present where the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration would not seem to be able to make good the loss by the Colonial Administration's mistake.

The Court of Appeal in a reserved judgment, allowed an appeal by a majority (Sir David Cairns dissenting) by seven applicants, sons and daughters of Mr Mohamedali Gowa from the judgment of Mr Justice McCullough on November 2, 1982, who refused a substantive application for judicial review for an order for *mandamus* and a declaration and ordered that the motion be dismissed.

The court granted leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

Sir Charles Fletcher-Cooke, QC and Mr K. S. Nathan for the applicants; Mr Andrew Collins for the Attorney General.

SIR DAVID CAIRNS said that Mr Gowa was born in Tanganyika in 1905. He married an Indian lady in India in 1927. He was with the Allied Forces in the war and was proud of his connection with Great Britain, though he spent most of his time in Dar-es-Salaam and Bombay.

All the applicants were born in Bombay before 1947 when India became independent. They all lived in India and at the end of 1948 were British subjects in English law, and continued to be so after the British Nationality Act 1948 came into force on January 1, 1949.

The issue was whether they ever acquired, or were entitled to be granted, the status of citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies.

In September 1951, Mr Gowa went to the secretariat in Dar-es-Salaam to ask for himself, his wife and all his children to be recognized as citizens.

On September 11 the member for law and order at the secretariat wrote to Mr Gowa telling him that an application form could be obtained which gave instructions regarding their completion and despatch.

The applications were obtained, completed and sent in and on September 19 the member wrote to Mr Gowa: "I am directed to refer to your application to be registered as a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies and to inform you that from the facts which you submitted on your application form, it appears that you and your family are already citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies. In your case therefore, it is not proposed to take any further action regarding your application. The application in respect of your wife however, will be dealt with in the normal way and forwarded to you in due course."

That letter was inaccurate in two respects: none of the applicants was already a citizen but Mrs Gowa was one. Mr Gowa took it that the applicants were all citizens and that no further step was necessary.

In July 1979, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office recognized the applicants as British subjects without citizenship. Solicitors for the applicants, relying on what Mr Gowa was told in 1951, tried unsuccessfully to persuade the Foreign Office to acknowledge the legal right of the applicants under section 7 and section 13 of the 1948 Act.

On August 24, 1981, they were told that the letter issued by the Colonial Administration in Dar-es-Salaam in 1951 did not constitute a certificate of nationality in terms of section 25 of the 1948 Act.

The applicants did not become citizens by estoppel in 1951 and nothing that occurred thereafter up to 1981 could have given them that status. The secretary of state's decision in 1981 was the only one which, in accordance with his duty, he could give.

LORD JUSTICE STEPHENSON said that the decision-making process went wrong in Dar-es-Salaam in September 1951 when misrepresentations that they were already citizens were made to Mr Gowa which had caused the applicants to refrain from applying for registration as citizens and which estopped the secretary of state from denying the status which they could have obtained if they had not acted on the misrepresentations.

The 1951 letter was a misstatement of fact, based on a mistake of law. It was not in form a decision but was in effect a decision.

It communicated officially the Governor's decision which he had statutory authority to make, that the applicants were citizens. That decision in 1951 was not a decision which the applicants were asking the court to review or quash. That was a decision on which they relied.

The final decision in 1981 was a decision on which, they claimed that the secretary of state could not rely because he was estopped from doing so by the earlier decision.

The decision in 1951 bound the secretary of state. The contradictory decision, which he purported to make in 1981, was therefore made without jurisdiction, the ousting words of section 26 did not apply to it, and it could and should be reviewed and quashed.

The statutory power of the secretary of state and the Governor to grant applications for registration as citizens under section 7 of the 1948 Act was given by Parliament for the benefit of applicants.

The Governor was under no disability from awarding the applicants citizenship status. He had the power to award it and was not extending his power beyond its limits by creating an estoppel: see *Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries v Hulkin* (unreported) cited in *Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries v Matthews* ([1950] KB 148, 153-154).

Wells v Minister of Housing and Local Government ([1967] 1 WLR 1000) and *Western Fish Products Ltd v Penwith District Council* ([1981] 2 All ER 204; (1978) 77 LGR 185) were decided on very different facts and did not help to decide the present case. They certainly did not prevent a decision in favour of the applicants.

The Crown was estopped from denying to the applicants the status of citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies. The appeal should be allowed and declared that they were.

Lord Justice Lloyd gave a judgment concurring with Lord Justice Stephenson.

Solicitors: Michael Freeman & Co; Treasury Solicitor.

GLC's campaign against government policy an irrelevant consideration

Regina v Greater London Council and Another, Ex parte Westminster City Council

Before Mr Justice Glidewell

[Judgment delivered December 19]

The maintenance of good staff relations was a proper function of a local authority and a decision by an authority to release staff with pay for that purpose was within section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 as it was an action which facilitated or was conducive or incidental to the discharge of its functions.

A decision by the Greater London Council under sections 142 and 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 to grant full-time release with pay to seven members of its staff to assist the administrator of the Democracy for London Campaign was invalid because when making the decision the council took an irrelevant consideration into account.

A similar decision by the Inner London Education Authority to *release one of its staff* with pay to the campaign was valid.

Mr Justice Glidewell so held in the Queen's Bench Division *granting, in part*, an application by Westminster City Council for judicial review of those decisions of ILEA and the GLC.

Section 111 of the 1972 Act provides: "Without prejudice to any powers exercisable apart from this section, but subject to the provisions of this Act ... a local authority shall have power to do anything ... which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or *incidental* to, the discharge of any of their functions."

Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC and Mr Alan Wilkie for Westminster; *Mr Alexander Irvine, QC*, Mr Brian Keith and Mr Patrick Elias for ILEA; Lord Gifford, QC and Mr Robert Allen for the GLC.

MR JUSTICE GLIDEWELL said that a joint committee or body of trade unions with members at GLC and ILEA, set up in order to explain to members of the unions the policy and actions of the two authorities in opposition to the Government, to seek the views of members on the subject and to convey them to the authorities, and to seek to allay the fear of members and to prevent sporadic industrial action, could be said to be conducive to good staff relations.

A decision to support such a body by the loan on full pay of an employee of the GLC or ILEA could lawfully be made by the authority, subject to the usual *Wednesbury* test of reasonableness – provided that the decision-making body took into account all relevant and no irrelevant considerations, its decision would be within the proper exercise of its discretion, and not open to challenge by the court.

However, if the object, or a major object, of such a joint committee was to conduct a *political campaign*, in opposition to government policy, neither the GLC nor ILEA had any legal power to support such a campaign. *Thus if the members of* the respective subcommittees arrived at their decisions solely or partly because of a desire to support such a *campaign*, that was an irrelevant consideration, and the decisions would then be invalid.

The decision by ILEA was made *in the interests of good* industrial relations and Westminster City Council had failed to prove that it was made for an improper or ulterior reason.

The decision by the GLC to release seven members of staff was taken for different reasons. They were to be concerned in campaigning activities at local level, both among trade unionists and citizens of Greater London, in support of the GLC's own campaign against government policy.

That was not a proper or relevant matter for the committee making the decision to take into account. Moreover the committee did not attempt to weigh the loss of time and skills of seven employees against the possible disadvantages to staff relations if the request for the secondment of the additional seven had been refused.

Solicitors: *Mr T. F. Neville; Mr J. R. Fitzpatrick*.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

. . LET US NOW GO even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. – St Luke 2:15.

BIRTHS

BRINKLEY. – On 21st December at Queen Charlottes Hospital to Mary and Robert a son, Francis Thomas Edward, a brother for Andrew.

HARRIS on Sunday December 23rd in Baltimore U.S.A. to Diana (Nee Swindells) and Mark, a son, Alexander Mark William.

HULL on December 10th to Camilla (nee Salmon) and Tony a son (Julian Richard Anthony).

JACKSON – On 15 December to Alison (nee Arnot) and Richard a son Piers, a brother for Rollo.

OGG. On December 22nd at St Helier Hospital Carshalton to Maureen (née Samuels) and Ken, the gift of a son. (Thomas William).

RICHARDS – On December 22nd to [illegible]

STEAD to Daphne & George on 21 December, a son.

TURVILL On 21st December 1984 to [illegible]

DIAMOND WEDDING

[illegible]

DEATHS

[illegible]

IN MEMORIAM

[illegible]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[illegible]

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Entertainments

THEATRES

Continued from page 19

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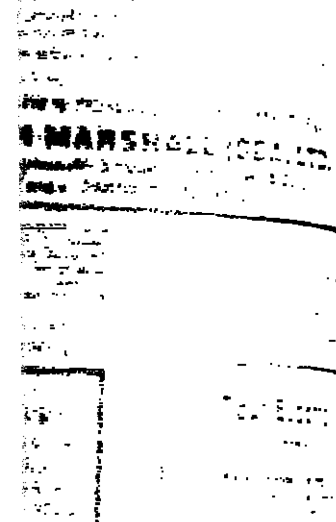
ART GALLERIES

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CONCERTS

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مكذا من الأصل



هكذا من الاصل

Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 **Ceefax AM.** News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins. Also available to viewers with television sets without the teletext facility.

6.30 ***Breakfast Time*** with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Fern Britton at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 6.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18. Plus exercises from the Green Goddess and a look back at some of the year's Breakfast Time highlights. The guest is Terry Scott.

9.00 **Charlie Brown.** Cartoon. 9.25 **Inch High Private Eye** (r). 9.45 **Laurel and Hardy.** Cartoon version (r). 9.50 **Lassie** comes to the aid of two moonshiners trapped by a forest fire.

10.15 ***Jackanory.*** Cherie Lunghi reads Puss in Boots (r). 10.30 **Play School**, persented by Carol Chell. 10.50 ***Heads and Tails.*** A See-Saw programme for the very young (r). 11.05 **Cartoon:** Tom and Jerry.

11.15 **Bonanza.** Little Joe meets a sailor who is returning home to unearth a cache he hid many years before. But his home is now a thriving town (r). 12.05 **Wait Till Your Father Gets Home.** A Hanna-Barbera cartoon series.

12.30 **Midday News** with Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Jim Bacon. 12.42 Regional news (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles).

12.45 **Junior Kick Start.** The final heat. 1.10 **Kung Fu.** Caine meets his half-brother and becomes involved in a feud. 2.00 **Bugs Bunny's Looney Christmas Tales.**

2.20 **Film: Courage of Lassie** (1946) starring Elizabeth Taylor. The brave dog has had a successful Second World War but like some of his human colleagues he returns home deeply affected by the hostilities. Directed by Fred M Wilcox.

3.50 **Jackanory.** Martin Jarvis reads William – at Christmas. 4.05 **Alice in Wonderland.** A cartoon version with the voices of Nigel Hawthorne and Tracey Childs. 4.30 **Cartoon:** Tom and Jerry. 4.40 **Culture Club in Concert** at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. 5.30 **Grange Hill.** Episode 17 (r) (Ceefax).

6.00 **News** with Frances Coverdale. 6.15 Regional news.

6.20 **Tomorrow's World** explores the world of illusion and perception.

6.50 **Top of the Pops Review of 1984**, introduced by Lenny Henry.

7.50 **The Kenny Everett Christmas Show.** Fast moving comedy sketches from a very funny man.

8.20 **Porridge.** It is Christmas time at Slade Prison and the inmates, notably Norman Stanley Fletcher, are not feeling seasonal (r) (Ceefax).

9.00 **Miss Marple: The Body in the Library.** Part two and Miss Marple's theory about a second killing is proved correct (Ceefax).

9.55 **News** with Frances Coverdale.

10.10 **Review of the Year 1984** presented by Frank Bough and Selina Scott (Ceefax).

11.30 ***Golf: The One Club Challenge*** for the Epson Trophy. The second match in the competition and Severiano Ballesteros with Lee Trevino play Greg Norman and Hal Sutton. The commentator is Peter Alliss.

12.20 **Weather.**

TV-am

6.25 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.39 and 7.37; guests, from 6.45, Jenny Agutter, Paul Nicholas and Joshua Rifkin; exercises at 6.46; Denis Healey remembers Christmas past at 8.15; film reviews at 8.34; d-i-y advice at 8.43; Roland Rat at 9.00

ITV/LONDON

9.25 **Thames news headlines** followed by **Flicks.** Musical stories for the young, introduced by Christopher Lillicrap (r). 9.35 **The Christmas Tree Train.** The story of Buttons, a young bear, and Rusty, a fox cub, who live in a forest of Christmas trees.

10.00 **Film: Island of Adventure** (1981) starring Chloe Franks, Patrick Field, Norman Bowler and Wilfred Brambell. An Enid Blyton adventure.

11.25 **New Brighton Rock.** *Pop concert recorded at* New Brighton's bathing pool. Among those apprearing are Gloria Gaynor, Frankie Goes to Hollywood and Spandau Ballet (r).

1.00 **News at One.** 1.20 **Thames news** with Robin Houston.

1.30 **St Ivel Ice Gala**, presented by Simon Reed from the Richmond Ice Rink. The star of the show is Robin Cousins.

2.30 **Film: The Thirty Nine Steps** (1978) starring Robert Powell. John Buchan's classic adventure story about an engineer who becomes involved with British intelligence, themselves trying to prevent the visiting Greek Prime Minister from being assassinated. Directed by Don Sharp.

4.15 **University Challenge** presented by Bamber Gascoigne.

4.45 **Knight Rider.** Michael Knight and his computerized car, KITT, are tricked into helping a 14-year-old con artist (r).

5.45 **News.** 6.00 **Thames news.**

6.35 **Crossroads.** More drama from the Midlands motel.

7.00 **The Krypton Factor Olympic Celebrity Special.** Four medallist from this year's Olympics compete in a searching series of physical tests followed by one to tax the brain. Gordon Burns introduces Tessa Sanderson, Andy Holmes, Neil Adams and June Croft (Oracle).

7.30 **Film: Somebody Killed Her Husband** (1978) starring Farah Fawcett and Jeff Bridges. A lighthearted mystery story about the young wife of an unhappy marriage who meets a man she falls in love with. When the two of them eventually go to confront the husband they find he has been murdered. Directed by Lamont Johnson.

9.15 **Frankenstein.** Mary Shelley's classic horror tale about a man's attempts to construct another human by means of spare-part surgery and how the experiments went badly wrong. Starring Robert Powell, Carrie Fisher, David Warner John Gielgud, Terence Alexander and Susan Wooldridge (Oracle).

10.40 **News** followed by Thames news headlines.

11.00 **World in Action: The First 21 Years.** A compilation of the best of the investigative programme's subjects drawing on its mammoth archive of nearly 500 hours of film. Early black and white footage examines the ballroom dancing craze of the Sixties while later topics include sanctions busting in Rhodesia and tales of financial double dealing (Oracle).

12.30 **Peace**, presented by Gill Nevill.

12.40 **Closedown.**

Gore Vidal: Vidal in Venice (Channel 4, 9.00 pm)

● **VIDAL IN VENICE** (Channel 4, 9.00pm) is a personal view of La Serenissima by the American writer, Gore Vidal; personal being the key word, for Mr Vidal has Friuli blood in his veins which makes him a Venetian as near as damn it. You will note that the title is Vidal *in* Venice, not Vidal *on* Venice. This makes Mischa Scorer's two films (the second can be seen tomorrow night) even more personal, because Mr Vidal is not just talking over the pictures, but becomes an integral part of them. And it must be said that he is almost as photogenic as the city itself, a romantic movie star manqué. In fact, the least interesting thing about tonight's film is Mr Vidal's attempt to identify his Venetian ancestry. In ancient books, he traces sundry Vidals who were debtors. And there were three

CHOICE

Vidals who were doges, but as Vidal was only their Christian name, we are denied the spectacle of seeing Mr Vidal throwing a wedding ring into the Grand Canal in the symbolic ritual of marrying city to sea. He has more luck with the Tiepolo family. The director of of the city's archives turns out to be the last of the line. Venice has had many far less conscientious historians than Gore Vidal. And he is sparing in his use of the cliché, contenting himself with the self-evident fact that Venice is perhaps the most beautiful cliché on earth. More opaque is his statement that, like most clichés, Venice is best seen at its emptiest.

● Best of tonight's films: Chaplin's **MONSIEUR VERDOUX** (BBC 2, 3.25pm), still the most stylish and funniest film ever made about a multi-murderer; and Richard Attenborough's **OH! WHAT A LOVELY WAR** (Channel 4, 10.00pm), a brilliantly inventive musical about another kind of mass murder.

● Radio highlights: Emlyn Williams's **READINGS FROM DICKENS** (Radio 4, 11.15pm), which are superb examples of the story-teller's art, and deserve an earlier time slot than this. And **THE DREAM CHILD** (Radio 4, 9.45am), Richard Mullen's portrait of Charles and Mary Lamb: a tragic brother-sister relationship that, despite everything, produced so much charming literature.

Peter Davalle

BBC 2

9.00 **Ceefax.**

12.45 **Film: The Valley of Gwangi** (1968) starring James Franciscus and Richard Carlson. Members of a Wild West Show explore Mexico's Forbidden Valley, ignoring the warnings of a blind gypsy that they will evoke the curse of the Gwangi. Directed by James O'Connolly.

2.20 **Schools Proms 84**, introduced by Antony Hopkins. Highlights of the three-day Prom include performances by the South Glamorgan Youth Orchestra with guest soloist, the 1984 BBC Young Musician of the Year, Emma Johnson; and the Corby Beanfield School Band with the trombonist Don Lusher.

3.10 **Cartoons.**

3.25 **Film: Monsieur Verdoux*** (1947) starring Charlie Chaplin and Martha Raye. A black comedy with Chaplin playing a mild-mannered bank clerk who is fired when the recession comes. He decides to play Bluebeard and marries a string of rich women around the country, eventually bumping them off when their money runs out. Directed by Charlie Chaplin.

5.25 **News summary with subtitles.**

5.30 **Telly Quiz.**

6.00 **Film: Reap the Wild Wind** (1942) starring John Wayne, Susan Hayward and Ray Milland. A Cecil B. DeMille epic about the crew of a sailing ship plying the coasts of 19th century America.

8.00 **Former Glory.** The story of the struggle by Father Christopher Spencer and his parishioners to restore the church of St Lawrence, Little Stanmore, built by James Bridges, the first Duke of Chandos who kept a private 22-piece orchestra and employed Handel as his music master.

9.00 **The Best . . . and Worst of Entertainment USA.** Jonathan King is in Hawaii for this edition that looks back at the last four series and picks, as the title suggests, the most banal and the most interesting items. Among the former is the Miss Diaper contest, among the latter, an interview with Michael Grade, now Controller of BBC 1, but then a television executive living in America, on the contrasts between British and American television.

9.55 **M*A*S*H.** Alas, the very last episode. A feature length edition which, when shown in the United States last year, drew an audience of an estimated 125 million viewers. Set in the last days of the Korean War, Hawkeye is being treated for a breakdown, brought on by the pressures of the war; Charles is caught in an embarrassing position by an inconsiderate tank; and the marvellous corporal Klinger finally meets an equal. Directed by Alan Alda.

11.50 **Lindisfarne Christmas Show.** The Newcastle group in concert in their home town's City Hall. Ends at 12.35.

CHANNEL 4

11.00 **Film: Captain Stirrick** (1982) made by the Children's Film Unit. A musical drama, set in 19th century London, that follows the adventures of a gang of child thieves and pickpockets. Professional adult actors, Freddie Jones, Roger Sloman and Ronnie Stevens are joined by children aged from seven to 17 (r).

12.40 **Christmas Cracker.** A seven awards-winning animated film.

12.50 **Rhythmetic** Norman McLaren's award-winning animated film.

1.00 **Channel Four Racing** from Kempton Park. Brough Scott introduces coverage of four races – the Kennington Novices' Chase (12.40) (recording); The Ladbroke Novices' Handicap Hurdle Qualifier (1.10); the Ladbroke Handicap Chase (1.40); and the Feltham Novices' Chase (2.10). The race commentator is Graham Goode.

2.30 **We're Gonna Sing.** A documentary that examines the life of black people in this country through the medium of gospel singing. With the London Community Gospel Choir, directed by the Rev Basil Meade, Paradise, Echoes of Joy, the Latter Rain Outpouring Choir and Lawrence Johnson.

3.10 **Arms and the Man**, by George Bernard Shaw. Richard Briers, Alice Krige and Peter Egan star in this television version of the 1982 West End revival of Shaw's romantic comedy about an escaping Swiss officer from the routed Serbian Army who takes refuge in the bedroom of the enemy commander's fiancee (r).

5.00 **Sebastian Coe: Born to Run.** A documentary, filmed over a period of two years, that follows the ups and downs and ups of one of Britain's top athletes. Written and narrated by Tony Maylam.

6.00 **The Amateur Naturalists of the Year.** The winners of the three sections (different age groups) at work on their projects. A schoolmistress goes on a suburban safari; a young boy organizes a scheme to save Norfolk frogs; and a teenage girl studies the plight of the badger. Presented by Gerald Durrell and Lee Durrell.

7.00 **Channel Four News and Weather.**

7.30 **Hiawatha.** Michael Bogdanov's adaptation of Longfellow's classic poem, first produced at the National Theatre.

9.00 **Vidal in Venice.** Gore Vidal presents the first of a two-part examination of the rise and fall of the Venetian empire.

10.00 **Film: Oh! What a Lovely War** (1969). A huge, distinguished cast under the direction of Richard Attenborough, view the First World War from the end of Brighton Pier.

12.30 **Closedown.**

Radio 4

On long wave.† also VHF stereo.

5.55 Shipping. 6.00 News; Prelude.† 6.30 News; Farming Today. 6.55 Weather.
7.00 News; Matins for the feast of St John the evangelist.† 7.30 Today, including 7.30, 8.28 News summary. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 7.55 Weather. 8.25 Sport.
8.30 Smash of the Day. The Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy (r).†
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs. The castaways are the Beaux Arts Trio (r).†
9.45 The Dream Child by Richard Mullen. A portrait of the writer, Charles Lamb with David March as Lamb. (see choice)
10.30 'Five Decades of Alistair Cooke's 'Letter from America' (4): The 70s.
10.45 Natural Selection Box: Cheese Please.†
11.00 News; Travel.
11.05 Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen. Dramatised in six parts (4) (r).
12.00 News; Stilgoe's Around with Richard Stilgoe. From Guy's Hospital, London. †
12.30 Quote. . . Unquote with Canon Don Lewis, Julian Michell, Elaine Morgan and Myfanwy Talog.† 12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping.
2.00 The Adventure Play. 'Rupert of Hentzau' by Anthony Hope. Starring Julian Glover as Rassendyll and King Rudolph, and Martin Jarvis as Rupert (r).
3.30 Hartwood at the Opera. Lord Harewood talks about his 30 years involvement with the operatic lifeblood of this country.
4.00 News.
4.05 Down Your Way. Brian Johnston remembers some of the people he has met on his journeys.
4.45 Winnie-The-Pooh by A. A. Milne (4). Read by Alan Bennett.
5.00 PM: News magazine; Travel.
5.35 Asterix in Britain (4). 5.50 Shipping. 5.55 Weather.
6.00 The Six oclock News; Financial Report.
6.15 Victorian Christmas Miscellany (6): Away from Home. With The Ambrosian Singers.†
6.30 Not a Penny More, Not a Penny Less by Jeffrey Archer (4) 'Monte Carlo' (r).
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Christmas Punch. Roy Hattersley, MP, observes the press and politics at Christmas Time.
7.30 Shaw at Christmas 'Major Barbara' by Bernard Shaw. With Anna Massey, John Phillips, Gwen Watford and Jeramy Clyde (r).†
9.30 Never Sing Louder than Lovely. A portrait of Dame Isobel Baillie, the soprano who died in September last year aged 83. The contributors include Dame Eva Turner, Beryl Reid, John Grierson and Mary Jarred. Presented by Richard Baker (r).
10.15 A Book at Bedtime: 'Justing Resting' by Leo McKern (7). Read by the author. 10.29 Weather.
10.30 The World Tonight.
11.00 The Meaning of Christmas. A meditation for the feast of St John.
11.15 Emlyn Williams reads another of his scenes from Dickens. Includes Mrs Sarah Gamp and a sequence from Little Dorrit that Mr Williams calls The Fall of Mildas. (See Choice).
11.45 Radio Brynsiencyn. †
12.00 News; Weather.
12.15 A Sideways Look At . . . by Anthony Smith (followed by interlude). 12.33 Shipping. VHF (available in England and S. Wales only). Radio 4 vhf as above, except: 5.55-6.00am Weather; Travel. 1.55-2.00pm Listening Corner: Pickle and the Snowbear. 5.50-5.55 An Irish Diary. Joe discovers the truth about Santa Claus.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: Wagner's A Faust Overture; Chopin's Polonaise-Fantaisie Op 61 (Ashkenazy, piano); Haydn's Symphony No 41 in C. 8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (contd): Rimsky-Korsakov's Capriccio Espagnol; Chabrier's Trois Valses romantiques (Dosse and Petit, pianos); William Young's Sonata Seconda; and Ravel's Valses nobles et sentimentales. 9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Prokofiev's Piano Sonata No 8 in B flat, Op 84 (Richter, piano); Suite: Summer Night Op 123 from the Duenna.†
10.00 Enchanted Forests: D'Indy's La Forêt enchantée, Op 8; and Wagner's Forest Murmurs (Siegfried).†
10.25 Spanish Music for Violin and Piano: Fiona Vanderspar (violin) and John Alley (piano). Turina's Variaciones Clasicas; Juan Manen's Danza Iberica No 1; Joaquin's Nin Sequida Espanola; Cesar Espejo's Airs Tzines.†
11.00 1984 Holst Festival: Finzi's Prelude; Vaughan Williams's Oboe Concerto; Holsts's St Paul's Suite. Divertimenti, Malcolm Messiter (oboe) and Christine Messiter (flute). †1.00 News.
1.05 Schumann and Haydn: Julia Cload (piano). Schumann's Davidbundlertanze; and Haydn's Sonata in D (H XV1 37).†
2.00 Der fliegende Hollander (The Flying Dutchman). Wagner's three-part opera. A Bavarian Radio recording. Waldemar Nelsson conducts the Bayreuth Festival forces with Simon Easles as the Dutchman. Lisbeth Balslev as Senta. Robert Schlunk as Erik the huntsman. Anny Schlemm (Mary). Graham Clarke and Matti Salminen.†
4.20 Rameau and Balbastre: Gilbert Rowland's harpsichord recital includes Rameau's Fanfarinette: and Rameau's Four pieces from Pygmalion.†4.55 News.
5.00 The Octave of the Nativity (5) Reconstruction of the Mass of St John the Evangelist, given in the Imperial Chapel, Innsbruck in 1509. With London Lassus Ensemble.†
6.05 A Miniature Concert: Recordings of Mozart's overture Il re pastore; Jean Francaix's Concertino in G (Francaix is the pianist); and Leopold Mozart's Toy Symphony.†
6.30 Bandstand: Yorkshire Imperial Band. Paul Patterson's Chromascope; and Elgar Howarth's Concerto for trombone and band.†
7.00 Schubert Piano Sonatas: Part one. Alfred Brendel plays the Sonata in C major (Reliquie); and Sonata in A minor, D 784.†
7.50 A Memorable Scene: Leslie Sands reads from Sir Charles Firth's Oliver Cromwell and the Rule of the Puritans in England
8.10 Schubert. Part two. Sonata in B flat major, D 960.†
9.00 The Rape of the Lock: Ronald Pickup reads the poem by Alexander Pope. There are five cantos.
10.00 Music in Our Time: The song drama The Chakravaka Bird, by Anthony Gilbert. Music set to the poems of Akka Mahadevi. With soloists Gillian Night, Brian Burrows, Paul Esswood and Stuart Kale. And, in a spoken role, David March Instrumentalists conducted by Lionel Friend.†
11.20 Uuno Klami: Finnish Radio SO plays the Symphony No 2.†
11.57 News. Until 12.00.



Emlyn Williams as Dickens: (Radio 4, 11.15pm)



Dame Isobel Baillie: (Radio 4, 9.30pm)

Radio 2

On medium wave. † also VHF stereo. News on the hour. Headlines 5.30am, 6.30 7.30 and 8.30.

4.00am David Yamalit including 5.02 Cricket. 5.30 Ray Moore including 6.02 Cricket. 7.30 Terry Wogan including 8.31 Racing. 9.02 Cricket. 10.00 Jimmy Young including 10.02, 11.02 Cricket. 12.00 Steve Jones including 12.02 Cricket, 1.05 Sports Desk. 2.00 Judith Chalmers† including 2.02; 3.02; Sports Desk. 3.30 Music All The Way.† 4.00 David Hamilton's Music Show.† 4.02; 5.05; Sports Desk. 6.00 John Dunn† including 6.02 Sports Desk 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (mf) only 8.00 Stuart Hall's Year Of Sport.† 9.00 Wally Whyton† introduces the Country Club Christmas Quiz. 9.55 Sports Desk 10.00 Radio Active. 10.30 Star Sound Extra with Nick Jackson and film world guests 11.00 Round midnight (stereo from midnight). 1.00am Nightride. 3.00-4.00 James Moody on saxophones and flute.†

Radio 1

On medium wave. † also VHF stereo. News on the half-hour from 6.30am until 9.30pm and 12 midnight.

6.00am Adrian John. 8.00 Mike Read. 10.00 Simon Bates. 12.00pm Gary Davies including 12.30 Newsbeat 2.30 Andy Peebles. 5.00 Bruno Brookes including 5.30 Newsbeat. 7.30 Janice Long. 10.00-12.00am Into The Music with Tommy Vance.† VHF RADIOS 1 & 2: 4.00am With Radio 2. 10.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-4.00am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk 7.00 World News 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours 7.30 Cole Porter And His Music. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Country Music Profile. 8.30 John Peel. 9.00 World News 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 This Is Christmas. 9.30 Back In Ten Minutes. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Monitor. 10.00 News Summary. 10.01 Ralph McTell. 10.30 Three Men In A Boat. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 New Ideas. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Top Twenty. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 Sackbuts And Sinfonias. 2.00 News Summary. 2.01 The Loves Of Walt Disney. 2.45 Juke Box Jury 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 The Pleasure's Yours. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Assignment 4.45 The World Today 5.00 World News. 5.09 Ralph McTell 8.00 World News. 8.15 A Jolly Good Show. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Merchant Navy Programme 11.30 Omnibus. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 The First Half Century. 1.00 News Summary 1.01 Words Of Faith. 1.30 Not So Much A Hobby. 1.45 Ulster Newsletter. 1.50 In The Meantime. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 The Art Of Gerald Moore. 2.30 Press Barons. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Business Matters. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Country Music Profile. 5.45 The World Today.

(All times in GMT)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; **Radio 2:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; **Radio 3:** 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; **Radio 4:** 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; **LBC** 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; **Capital:** 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; **BBC Radio London** 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; **World Service** MF 648kHz/463m.

BBC1 Wales: 12.42-12.45pm News. 5.30-6.00 Grange Hill. 6.15-6.20 Wales Today. 12.20-12.25am News of Wales. Scotland: 12.42-12.45pm News. 6.15-6.20 News. 12.20-12.25am Scottish news. Northern Ireland: 12-42-12.45pm News. 6.15-6.20 News. 12.20-12.25am Northern Ireland news. England: 6.15-6.20pm London: News Headlines. All other English regions: Regional News.

SCOTTISH As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 6.00-6.35 News and Scotland Today. 12.30am Late Call. 12.35 Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00 News. 12.30am Closedown.

TVS As London except: 6.00-6.35 Coast to Coast. 12.30am Company, Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

ULSTER As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 12.25am News at Bedtime. Closedown.

TSW As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 Just Our Luck. 12.30am Postscript. Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 Border News. 6.00-6.35 Lookaround. 12.30 News. Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News and Lookaround. 6.00 News. 6.25-7.00 Northern Life. 12.30am Treasury of the Holy Spirit. 12.35 Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.30-6.35 Police News. 12.30 News. Closedown.

HTV As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 6.00-6.35 News. 12.30am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV except: 6.00pm-6.35 Wales at Six.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 6.00-6.35 Calendar. 12.30am Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30-7.00 Benson. 12.30 Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 6.00-6.35 About Anglia. 12.30am Eavesdropping, followed by Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 6.00 Crossroads. 12.30am Closedown.

S4C Starts 12.45pm Ffalabalam. 1.00 Racing from Kempton. 2.30 Greenland. 3.00 Young Visitors. 4.45 Ffalabalam. 5.00 Wil Cwac Cwac. 5.05 Y Gwyllt. 5.30 Mary Tyler Moore Show. 6.00 Addams Family. 6.30 Teulu-ffôn. 7.00 Newyddion saith. 7.15 Teulu-ffôn. 8.00 Greenbelt '84. 9.00 See How They Run. 10.25 Sibelius. 12.25am Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN
† Stereo. ★ Black and white. (r) Repeat

Entertainments

continued on page 18

Windsor welcome for Prince Henry's first Christmas







Royal gathering: (Left) Princess Anne and Master Peter Philips at the Christmas Day service at St George's Chapel, Windsor; (centre) Prince Henry as he appeared on BBC television during the Queen's broadcast; (right) Princess Margaret and Prince Andrew at St George's Chapel.

Letter from Poland

State on trial with a priest's killers

Courtroom 40 has been painted to please the television cameras, the prisoners have arrived from Warsaw under armed guard and the burghers of Torun alert, shocked out of their post-Christmas haze by the number of policemen trudging the snow outside Pickary Street, Number 51.

The trial that starts today inside the inoffensively ugly Torun courthouse has been hailed as the most important political hearing in Communist Europe for over 25 years. It is certainly rare, if not unique, for Communist authorities to put their own secret policemen on public trial for murdering an outspoken spokesman of the opposition.

The murder is of course, that of Father Jerzy Popieluszko, a quite leprechaun figure, who when he entered the pulpit, would be transformed into a ten-foot tall critic of the moral turpitude of Communist government. He was an embarrassment for the church leadership and a nuisance to the authorities.

The prosecutor in the forthcoming trial will claim that four secret policemen in the church-monitoring department of the Interior Ministry, frustrated by the bureaucratic languor of their superiors, decided to take the law into their own hands. A kidnap, messy and inefficient, turned to murder.

The Solidarity case – which will not go by default as the dead priest's relatives will be represented by independent Catholic "auxiliary prosecutors" – is that the murder was part of a deeper malaise within the security apparatus and the machinery of the Communist Party.

The defendants – already regularly described as murderers by officials and the Press – were taken over Christmas from Rakowiecka Prison in Warsaw to Torun Jail. An underground passage links the jail with the courthouse so the curious will get no glimpse of the colonel, the captain and the two lieutenants on trial.

That suits the Government. By deciding to fight an assumed hardline challenge to General Zjaruzelski with a policy of relative candour – making it seen for a brief, all too brief, moment as if the nation was at one with the General – the authorities are committed to a public trial. But careful planning limits the damage and reduces the anti-Government propaganda value of the hearing.

Courtroom 40, on the second floor, seats 100. A third of the seats are allocated to the Press, but by the time the Polish journalists and the Soviet Bloc reporters have their share, there is precious little space. Television cameras will be permitted to film the first three minutes, no more.

Torun is a sleepy thirteenth-century town on the banks of the Vistula that has given Poland Copernicus (the Earth moves around the Sun, not the other way round) and gingerbread (dry and a little bitter). By chance, Father Popieluszko was kidnapped within the city limits.

The prosecutors, the two professional judges (one of whom is a member of the Patriotic Front, which groups those who sympathise with the Communist Government) and the three lay judges all come from Torun. They will enjoy special police protection throughout the trial, although in the light of the case that seems rather a dubious asset.

On the other side, 32 intellectuals, workers and a priest have founded a human rights committee claiming that the high number of politically inspired kidnappings in the are – some carried out by a shadowy unit known as Organisation Anti-Solidarity – gives them the right to ask questions.

The provincial governor disagrees and on December 5 declared the organization illegal. The group has appealed, though with little hope of success as 11 similar committees set up as the result of Father Popieluszko's death, have been banned.

Torun, like the rest of Poland, remains sceptical about the trial. The last time policemen were put on public trial – when a Warsaw schoolboy died after being in police custody – the conclusion was that nobody had killed the boy, that the ambulancemen were more to blame than the policemen. An amnesty later freed the convicted militia officer.

This time it will not be so easy. Many eyes are on Torun.

Roger Boyes

Scargill raises spectre of further year's strike

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, who spent part of Christmas on the picket line has raised the spectre of the pits' strike lasting for another 12 months.

The miners' leader, accompanied by his wife Anne, helped picket a power station in Yorkshire on Christmas Day and later visited the union's headquarters in Sheffield to oversee operations of the strike coordinating centre.

Speaking on the picket line at Ferrybridge power station where a miner died earlier in the strike Mr Scargill said: "The Government had better understand that if they don't want the dispute to go on until Christmas 1985 they must allow the coal board to negotiate with the NUM."

Asked if he would be talking to Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board, in the new year he said: "When he returns from his sunshine holiday in Palm Beach it is a possibility that he might decide that the dispute has gone on long enough and that he should negotiate. I only hope that Mrs Thatcher and Mr Walker who are preventing negotiations taking place will accept that there should be negotiations."

Mr MacGregor is due back from his family holiday next week but there is little likelihood of an early resumption of negotiations to end the strike with the Government insisting that the miners modify their hard line opposition to pit closures and the union is showing no signs of agreeing.

It was tragic that the light of Christmas had failed to penetrate the darkness of the pits dispute "because of apparent unwillingness to attempt to resume efforts to achieve a negotiated settlement", the Archbishop of Liverpool, the Most Rev Derek Worlock, said in a Christmas Day message.

Leaders of the Scottish TUC, having seen the failure of their English counterparts to bring about a reopening of talks, have asked for a meeting with Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, to press him to help open the way forfresh negotiations between the board and the NUM.

The board will concentrate its efforts in the new year on encouraging an increase in the numbers of striking miners returning to work. Those had tailed off before the holiday break.

With most pits due to start working again on January 2, a series of newspaper advertisements placed by the board will point to the benefits an early return to work, with earnings to the end of the financial year largely tax free.

The board's propaganda campaign will also highlight what it regards as the futility of the strike and the unwillingness of Mr Scargill and the NUM leadership to compromise to get a negotiated settlement.

● More than 200 miners who gave up their Christmas holiday to fight a serious fire 850ft underground at Rawdon colliery in South Derbyshire, yesterday succeeded in containing the blaze. Two coal faces at the pit have been lost along with mining machinery worth several million pounds, a coal board spokesman said.

Tightest-yet security for the Queen

Security cameras and electronic detection devices have been installed at Sandringham House to guard the Queen who arrives for a six-week stay today.

IRA assassination threats after the Brighton bombing last October have led to the tightest-yet security on the 20,000-acre royal estate. Sniffer dogs and hundreds of policemen.

A guard is being mounted on three royal residences on the remote Norfolk estate where 18 members of the Royal Family will be living. Maximum protection is being given to:

Sandringham House, the Queen's 274-room Jacobean-style mansion set in 100 acres of grounds.

Wood Farm, Wolferton, the nine-bedroom farmhouse three miles away where the Prince and Princess of Wales and their children may stay.

Anmer Hall, two miles from Sandringham, home of the Duke and Duchess of Kent and their three children.

Norfolk police, who have 1,275 officers, have reduced policemen on miners' picket duties from 200 to a mere 40 during the Royal Family's stay.

The Queen's speech, page 10



Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother and Prince Edward attending St George Chapel.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Exhibitions

Scottish drawings by Joseph Herman, Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thur until 8, Sun 2 to 5 (Closed 1 & 2 Jan; ends Jan 25).

Cadbury's National Children's Art, Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thur until 8, Sun 2 to 5, (ends Dec 30).

Drawings by Pierre Bonnard, City Museum and Art Gallery, Queens Road, Bristol, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, (Closed 1 Jan; ends Jan 27).

Dishes for Dishes, designed and made by South Wales potters, Monmouth Museum, Priory Street, Monmouth, Gwent, Mon to Sat 10.30 to 1, and 2 to 5, closed Jan 1; ends Jan 13).

Urban wood: Sculptural reliefs by Peter Noble, and paintings and models by Matthew Ensor, City Museum and Art Gallery, Priestgate, Peterborough, Tues to Sat 12 to 5 (ends Jan 5).

Artist Potters Now, Southampton Art Gallery Civic Centre, Southampton, Tues to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 4, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Jan 13).

Costumes from theatre group Centre Ocean Stream, Southampton Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Southampton, Tues to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 4, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Jan 6).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,620

ACROSS

1 Overwhelm follower of Metternich (6).
4 This produces admission it's wrong to do right! (8).
10 Abstract problem given to girl (7).
11 In cinema, show enterprise (7).
12 Celebrity's investment at least 75% (5,5).
13 To do this, knock heads back? (4).
15 Study something useful for binding agreement (7).
17 A Rugby forward bigger than most, by the way (7).
19 Young girl once involved as model (7).
21 Actually a Latin phrase (2,5).
23 Quiet time for university in the fifties (4).
24 Addition to table in which digits are entered (6-4).
27 Two fellows famous for translating Homer (7).
28 Advancing from start of line to finish (7).
29 How meat's transformed to eat? Wrong (8).
30 Failing to cross to other side (6).

DOWN

1 Daughter is among first few to be evicted (9).
2 Left a politician with nothing on, subject to ridicule (7).
3 Detention centre not recommended for those without sin? (10).
5 Dombeys, for example, joined by this character (9).
6 Pack point-to-point (4).
7 Excel in open-work (7).
8 Member of divine group – artist omits second one (5).
9 Nurse from, say, a hospital (4).
14 Perhaps shares rather quiet citation (10).
16 Take steps about everything I needed for sport (9).
18 Disrespect about billiards shot – it's brilliantly played (9).
20 Utilitarian article is for artist (7).
22 Cold-hearted treat for Tory in election (4-3).
23 Temporary worker, in practice (5).
25 What beaters do put up this game (4).
26 Miss, say, Wodehouse novel (4).

Solution of puzzle No 16,619

SERENADER FIRTH
SPANGLE CARAVAN
LIMIT DISCOLOUR
HIT ABOMINATION
MOONLIGHTER ACE
TORMENTIL PRAWN
IGNITED AILMENT
GLORY TREASURED

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 6

Sales

Starting today

British Home Stores (London and countrywide); Ki West Furs, 21 Heddon St, Regent St; Jaeger (London and countrywide); Reject China Shop (London and countrywide); Allders, Croydon; Woolworth (London and countrywide); London Bedding Centre, 26/27 Sloane St, SW1.

Cyrus Carpets, Piccadilly; Maples, Tottenham Court Rd; Moss Bros (London and countrywide); Debenhams (all branches); Allexon (London and countrywide); Boots (London and countrywide); John Lewis, Edinburgh (only); Scotch House (all branches except Knightsbridge); Barkers, Kensington.

Burberrys, (Regent Street and Haymarket branches); Liberty, Regent Street; Aquascutum, (all branches); Bally, (London and Countrywide); Littlewoods, (London and Countrywide); Austin Reed, (London and Countywide); D H Evans, Oxford Street; Wood Green.

Fenwicks, Bond Street, W1; Newcastle and Leicester; Laura Ashley, all branches. Warehouse, all branches. Principles, all branches. Friends, South Molton Street, W1 and branches. Chelsea Girl, all branches. Monsoon, all branches. Midas, Hans Crescent, SW1, Wallis, all branches. Habitat, all branches. Roland Klein, Bruton Street, W1. Army & Navy, Victoria, SW1 and stores. Arnotts, all stores. Frasers, all stores excluding Glasgow and Edinburgh. Binns, all stores. Lewis's, all stores.

Dickins and Jones, (London and countrywide). Regent Street; Richmond; Milton Keynes; Simpson, Picadilly; Country Casuals, (London and countrywide); Mothercare, (London and countrywide).

Starting tomorrow

John Lewis, Oxford Street, Brent Cross (ends January 5); Peter Jones, Sloane Square (ends January 5); Jones Bros Holloway Road (ends January 5); Selfridges, Oxford Street (ends January 31); Heals Tottenham Court Road and Tunsgate, Guildford, Surrey (ends January 26); John Lewis (London and countrywide).

Anniversaries

Births: Johannes Kepler, astronomer, Weilder Stadt, Germany, 1571; Louis Pasteur, Dole, France, 1822; Deaths: Thomas Guy, founder of Guy's Hospital, London, 1724; Joanna Southcott, religious zealot, London, 1814; Charles Lamb, Edmonton, Middlesex, 1834; Max Beckmann, Expressionist painter, New York, 1950; Lester Pearson, prime minister of Canada 1963-68, Ottawa, 1972.

Today is the Feast of Saint John the Apostle.

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Books – poetry

The Literary Editor's selection of books of poetry published during the year:
Collected Poems, by C H Sisson (Carcanet, £14.95)
Dark Glasses, by Blake Morrison (Chatto & Windus £3.95)
Everyman's Book Of Light Verse, edited by Robert Robinson (Dent, £12.95)
Etcetera, the unpublished poems of e e cummings, edited by George James Firmage and Richard S Kennedy (Liverright, £7.95)
On the Appian Way, by Alistair Elliot (Secker & Warburg, £5.95)
Rich, by Craig Raine (Faber, £2.95)
Selected Poems, by Tony Harrison (Viking, £9.95, Penguin, £3.5)
Station Island, by Seamus Heaney (Faber, £2.95)
The Faber Book of Reflective Verse, edited by Geoffrey Grigson (Faber; £7.95) **The New Oxford Book of Eighteenth-Century Verse**, edited by Roger Lonsdale (Oxford, £15)

PH

Roads

The Midlands: All major roadworks on the motorways have been suspended until after the Christmas holidays.

The North: All major roadworks on the motorways suspended until after the Christmas holidays.

Wales and The West: A5 At Tynant west of Corwen, north Wales, temporary lights night and day; **A477** At Stepaside, Dyfed, only one lane with temporary lights night and day. **Severn Bridge:** Work suspended until until after the Christmas holidays.

Scotland; A94 North and south of Fardoun and Laurencekirk, Grampian on the Dundee to Stonehaven road, roadworks. A725 East Kilbride expressway and Bellshill by-pass, Lanarkshire, roadworks. A75 At Buccleoch bridge, Dumfries, roadworks.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.455	1.385
Austria Sch	26.55	25.25
Belgium Fr	76.40	72.40
Canada $	1.60	1.53
Denmark Kr	13.57	12.87
Finland Mkk	7.89	7.49
France Fr	11.55	11.00
Germany DM	3.775	3.585
Greece Dr	176.00	182.00
Hongkong $	9.56	8.95
Ireland Pt	1.215	1.155
Italy Lira	2310.00	2210.00
Japan Yen	304.00	288.00
Netherlands Gld	4.26	4.06
Norway Kr	10.92	10.42
Portugal Esc	205.00	195.00
South Africa Rd	2.42	2.26
Spain Pta	206.50	196.50
Sweden Kr	10.80	10.30
Switzerland Fr	3.10	2.95
USA $	1.225	1.165
Yugoslavia Dnr	300.00	280.00

Retail Price Index: 358.8.

London: The *FT* index closed down 6 on Friday at 924.3.

New York: The Dow Jones industrial average closed down 4.3 on Friday at 1198.98.

Snow reports

SCOTTISH SKI REPORTS
Cairngorm: *upper runs*: complete but narrow. New snow on a firm base. Middle runs: some complete. New snow lower slopes: limited nursery areas. Vertical runs: 1200ft hill roads and main road clear. Snow level: 2,000ft.
Glenshee: upper runs: very little snow. No vertical runs. Hill roads and main roads icy. Snow level: 3000ft.
Glencoe: Insufficient snow for skiing.

Cheaper calls

British Telecom has extended its cheap rate calls period to cover Christmas and the new year. The calls will be available from 6pm tomorrow to 8am January 2

Portfolio

Times Portfolio rules are as follows:

1 Times Portfolio is free. Purchase of The Times is not a condition of taking part.

2 Times Portfolio list comprises a group of public companies whose shares are listed on The Stock Exchange and quoted in The Times Stock Exchange prices page. The companies comprising that list will change from day to day. The list is divided into four groups of ten shares (1-10, 11-20, 21-30 and 31-40) and every Portfolio card contains two numbers from each group.

3 Times Portfolio "dividend" will be the figure in pence which represents the optimum movement in prices (i.e., largest increase or lowest loss) of a combination of eight (two from each group) of the 40 shares which on any day, comprise The Times Portfolio list.

4 The daily dividend will be announced each day and the weekly dividend will be announced each Saturday in The Times.

5 Times Portfolio list and details of the daily or weekly dividend will also be available for inspection at the offices of The Times.

6 If the overall price movement of more than one combination of shares equals the dividend, the prize will be equally divided among the claimants holding those combinations of shares.

7 All claims are subject to scrutiny before payment. Any Times Portfolio card that is defaced, tampered with or incorrectly printed in any way will be declared void.

8 Employees of News International plc and its subsidiaries and of Europrint Group Limited (producers and distributors of the card) or members of their immediate families are not allowed to play Times Portfolio.

9 All participants will be subject to these Rules. All instructions on "how to play" and "how to claim" whether published in The Times or in Times Portfolio cards will be deemed to be part of these Rules.

10 In any dispute, The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

11 If for any reason The Times Prices Page is not published in the normal way Times Portfolio will be suspended for that day.

How to play – Daily Dividend

On each day your unique set of eight numbers will represent commercial and industrial shares published in The Times Portfolio list which will appear on the Stock Exchange Prices page.

In the columns provided next to your shares note the price change (+ or –), in pence, as published in that day's Times.

After listing the price changes of your eight shares for that day, add up all eight share changes to give you your overall total plus or minus (+ or –).

Check your overall total against The Times Portfolio dividend published on the Stock Exchange Prices page.

If your overall total matches The Times Portfolio dividend you have won outright or a share of the total prize money stated for that day and must claim your prize as instructed below.

Portfolio – how to play

Monday–Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.

Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total.

If your total matches the published weekly dividend figure you have won outright or a share of the prize money stated for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to claim

Telephone The Times Portfolio claims line 0254-53272 between 10.00 am and 3.30 pm, on the day your overall total matches The Times Portfolio Dividend. No claims can be accepted outside these hours.

You must have your card with you when you telephone.

If you are unable to telephone someone else can claim on your behalf but they must have your card and call The Times Portfolio claims line between the stipulated times.

No responsibility can be accepted for failure to contact the claims office for any reason within the stated hours.

The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

● Some Times Portfolio cards include minor misprints in the instructions on the reverse side. These cards are not invalidated.

● The wording of Rules 2 and 3 has been expanded from earlier versions for clarification purposes. The Game itself is not affected and will continue to be played in exactly the same way as before.

Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure over Britain will move E as a trough of low pressure approaches western districts from the West.

6am to midnight

London, Midlands, Central & Northern England: Fog patches clearing slowly, dry sunny periods developing, wind variable light. Rather cold, max temp 2 to 4C (36 to 39F).

SE England, E Anglia, Eastern England: Sunny periods, coastal showers at first. Wind variable light. Near normal temperatures; max 5 to 7C (41 to 45F).

Central Southern England, Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Mainly dry, sunny intervals, more cloudy later. Wind variable light becoming southwesterly moderate. Rather cold, max temp 5 to 7C (41 to 45F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Northern Ireland: Sunny intervals becoming cloudy with outbreaks of rain, but snow on hills at first. Wind southwest light or moderate becoming fresh or strong. Near normal temperatures, max 5 to 7C (41 to 45F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee areas, Aberdeen area, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Mainly dry, sunny intervals, more cloudy later. Wind southwest light becoming moderate. Near normal temperatures, max 4 to 6C (39 to 43F).

Outlook for Friday and Saturday: Cloud and rain in the North-west extending SE but remaining mainly dry over South-east England, becoming brighter and mainly dry in the North-west later. Rather cold but becoming milder in the West and North.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E) Wind variable mainly light. Showers, some thundery and wintry. Visibility mainly good. Sea mainly smooth. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind variable light becoming southerly fresh or strong. Rain later. Visibility mainly good becoming moderate or poor later. Sea smooth, becoming moderate or rough later.

Sun rises: 8.06 am — Sun sets: 3.58 pm
Moon rises: 11.29 am — Moon sets: 9.28 pm
First quarter: December 30

Lighting-up time

London 4.28 pm to 7.38 am
Bristol 4.38 pm to 7.46 am
Edinburgh 4.14 pm to 8.14 am
Manchester 4.25 pm to 7.55 am
Penzance 4.56 pm to 7.51 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	f	2	36	Guernsey	f	5	41
Birmingham	s	2	36	Inverness			
Blackpool	c	2	36	Jersey	f	7	45
Bristol	s	4	39	London	s	4	39
Cardiff	s	5	41	Manchester	f	4	39
Edinburgh	s	1	34	Newcastle	s	3	37
Glasgow	s	2	36	Ronaldsway	f	6	43

London

Christmas Day: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 6C (46F); min 6pm to 6am, 2C (36F). Humidity: 6pm, 93 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.11in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 1.2hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6pm, 1,005.3 millibars, steady.

Boxing Day: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 5C (41F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 2C (36F). Humidity: 6 pm, 87 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.02in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 3.7hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1006.7 millibars, rising.

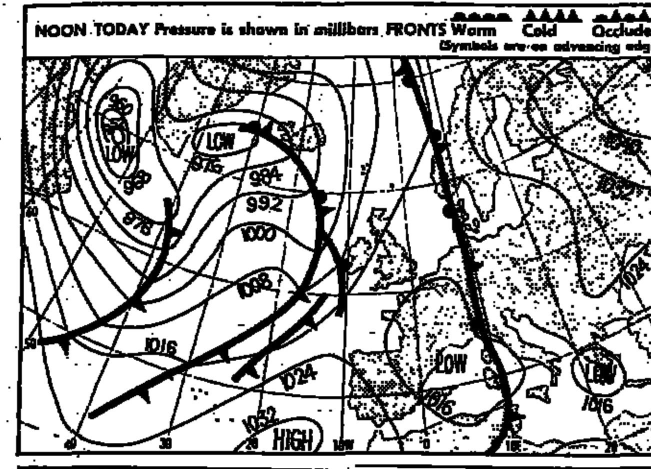
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

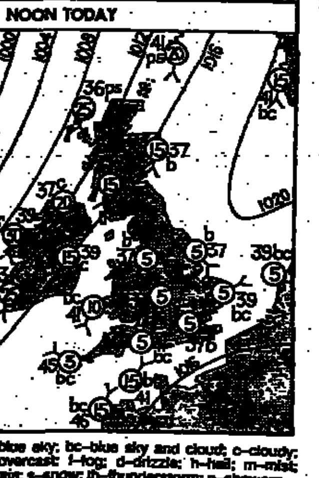
Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Jersey, 9C (48F); lowest day max: Eskdalemuir, 0C (32F); highest rainfall: Brawdy, 0.58in; highest sunshine: Nottingham, St Andrews 5.9hr.

Tuesday: Highest day temp: Penzance, 11C (52F); lowest day max: Newcastle-on-Tyne, 4C (39F); highest rainfall: St Bees Head, 1.1in; highest sunshine: Ilfracombe, 4.5hr.

Monday: Highest day temp: Margate 12C (54F); lowest day max: Aviemore 3C (37F); highest rainfall: Dlabaig 0.44in; highest sunshine: Teignmouth 6hrs.





b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud; c–cloudy; o–overcast; f–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures fahrenheit.

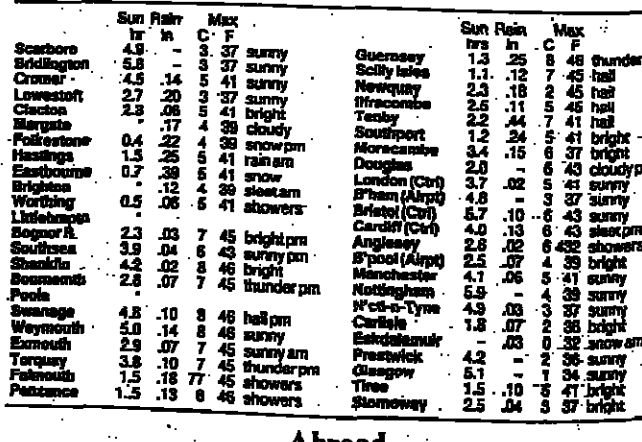
High tides

TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4.41	6.7	5.13	6.7
Aberdeen	4.30	3.8	4.17	4.0
Avonmouth	10.13	11.7	10.31	11.1
Belfast	2.01	3.2	2.13	3.5
Cardiff	9.58	10.8	10.16	10.3
Devonport	8.37	5.1	9.01	4.8
Dover	1.44	6.3	2.05	5.9
Falmouth	8.07	4.9	8.31	4.6
Glasgow	3.37	4.5	3.54	5.0
Harwich	2.36	3.7	3.14	3.5
Holyhead	1.16	4.9	1.24	5.2
Hull	9.28	6.4	9.27	6.9
Ilfracombe	9.0	8.3	9.17	7.8
Leith	5.47	5.0	5.59	5.0
Liverpool	2.02	8.4	2.18	8.6
Lowestoft (pm)	12.53	2.2	11.58	2.4
Margate	2.44	4.5	3.24	4.4
Milford Haven	9.19	6.4	9.38	5.9
Newquay	8.12	6.4	8.32	6.0
Oban	8.40	3.6	8.47	3.3
Penzance	7.42	5.2	8.08	4.8
Portland	9.38	2.0	10.09	1.7
Portsmouth	2.22	4.4	2.22	4.2
Shoreham	1.57	5.8	2.06	5.6
Southampton	1.55	4.2	1.57	4.0
Swansea	9.18	8.6	9.35	8.1
Tees	6.53	4.8	6.52	5.1
Walton-on-Naze	2.26	3.9	3.0	3.9

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain



	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	4.9	–	3	37	sunny
Bridlington	5.8	–	3	37	sunny
Cromer	4.5	.14	5	41	sunny
Lowestoft	2.7	.20	3	37	sunny
Clacton	2.3	.08	5	41	bright
Margate	*	.17	4	39	cloudy
Folkestone	0.4	.22	4	39	snow pm
Hastings	1.5	.25	5	41	rain am
Eastbourne	0.7	.39	5	41	snow
Brighton	*	.12	4	39	sleet am
Worthing	0.5	.06	5	41	showers
Littlehmptn	*				
Bognor R	2.3	.03	7	45	bright pm
Southsea	3.9	.04	6	43	sunny pm
Shanklin	4.2	.02	8	46	bright
Bournemth	2.8	.07	7	45	thunder pm
Poole	*				
Swanage	4.8	.10	8	46	hail pm
Weymouth	5.0	.14	8	46	sunny
Exmouth	2.9	.07	7	45	sunny am
Torquay	3.8	.10	7	45	thunder pm
Falmouth	1.5	.18	77	45	showers
Penzance	1.5	.13	8	46	showers

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Guernsey	1.3	.25	8	46	thunder
Scilly Isles	1.1	.12	7	45	hail
Newquay	2.3	.18	2	45	hail
Ilfracombe	2.5	.11	5	45	hail
Tenby	2.2	.44	7	41	hail
Southport	1.2	.24	5	41	bright
Morecambe	3.4	.15	6	37	bright
Douglas	2.0	–	6	43	cloudy pm
London (Ctrl)	3.7	.02	5	41	sunny
B'ham (Airpt)	4.8	–	3	37	sunny
Bristol (Ctrl)	5.7	.10	6	43	sunny
Cardiff (Ctrl)	4.0	.13	6	43	sleet pm
Anglesey	2.8	.02	6	432	showers pm
B'pool (Airpt)	2.5	.07	4	39	bright
Manchester	4.1	.06	5	41	sunny
Nottingham	5.9	–	4	39	sunny
N'ctl-n-Tyne	4.9	.03	3	37	sunny
Carlisle	1.8	.07	2	36	bright
Eskdalemuir	–	.03	0	32	snow am
Prestwick	4.2	–	2	36	sunny
Glasgow	5.1	–	1	34	sunny
Tiree	1.5	.10	5	41	bright
Stornoway	2.5	.04	3	37	bright

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	f	11	52	Cologne	c	2	36	Majorca	s	13	55	Rome	s	9	48
Akrotiri	c	17	63	Copenhgn	c	1	34	Malaga	f	14	57	Salzburg	c	1	36
Alexandria				Corfu	r	8	46	Malta	r	13	55	Sao Paulo	c	24	75
Algiers	c	13	55	Dublin	s	4	39	Melbourne	f	18	64	S Francisco	f	7	45
Amsterdam	s	14	57	Dubrovnik	r	4	39	Mexico C				Santiago*	s	26	79
Athens	f	14	57	Faro	s	15	59	Miami*	c	25	77	Seoul	s	-2	28
Bahrain	f	20	68	Florence	s	4	39	Milan	c	1	34	Singapore	c	29	82
Barbados*	f	10	50	Frankfurt	c	2	36	Montreal				Stockholm	sn	-1	30
Barcelona	f	10	50	Funchal	c	16	61	Moscow	s	-5	5	Strasbourg	sn	1	34
Beirut	c	19	66	Geneva	c	2	36	Munich	s	2	36	Sydney			
Belgrade	s	-1	30	Gibraltar	s	13	55	Nairobi	f	24	75	Tangier			
Berlin	c	-1	30	Helsinki	sn	-7	19	Naples	s	16	61	Tel Aviv*	f	21	70
Bermuda*	f	22	72	Hongkong	f	16	61	New Delhi	s	16	61	Tenerife*	f	21	70
Biarritz*	s	10	50	Innsbruck	s	1	34	New York*	s	6	43	Tokyo*	s	7	45
Boulogne	f	6	43	Istanbul	c	10	50	Nice	s	8	46	Toronto*	s	1	34
Bordeaux	r	5	42	Jiddah*	s	32	90	Oslo	sn	0	32	Tunis*	c	15	59
Brussels	c	5	41	Jo'burg				Paris	f	7	45	Valencia*	c	11	52
Budapest	s	-1	30	Karachi	f	21	70	Peking	s	-2	28	Vancouver*	c	4	39
Buen Aires*	f	21	70	Las Palmas	c	16	61	Perth	s	24	75	Venice			
Cairo				Lisbon	f	13	55	Prague	c	-2	28	Vienna*	f	4	39
Cape Tn	f	24	75	Locarno	s	2	36	Reykjavik	sn	-1	30	Warsaw	c	2	36
C'blanca	f	16	61	L Angeles*	s	16	61	Rhodes	f	17	63	Washington			
Chicago*	s	4	39	Luxembg	sn	-1	30	Riyadh	s	25	77	Wellington*	s	18	64
Ch'church*	c	19	66	Madrid	s	9	48	Rio de Jan	c	26	79	Zurich*	f	0	32

* denotes Sunday's figures are latest available